BLOOD SUCKER™

legend of zipangu

2

EXPLICIT CONTENT
PARENTAL ADVISORY
EXPLICIT CONTENT

ART BY: AKI SHIMIZU STORY BY: SAKI OKUSE

ART BY THE WRITER & ARTIST OF *SUIKODEN III* AND *QWAN*.

TOKYOPOP®

BLOOD SUCKER™

legend of zipangu

Vol. 2

Art by Aki Shimizu
Story by Saki Okuse

TOKYOPOP®

HAMBURG // LONDON // LOS ANGELES // TOKYO

Blood Sucker Vol. 2

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ISBN: 1-59816-333-7

First TOKYOPOP printing: October 2006

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Printed in the U.S.A.

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THE STORY THUS FAR

IN THE STOREHOUSE OF AN ABANDONED TEMPLE, A WESTERN COFFIN LOOMS OUT OF THE DARKNESS... AND THE FIGURE OF A SWORD-WIELDING WARRIOR EMERGES FROM INSIDE. THIS MAN IS NONE OTHER THAN MIGIRI, A VAMPIRE AWAKENING 200 YEARS AFTER A DUEL TO THE DEATH WITH THE SAMURAI NAONOSUKE IN THE EDO PERIOD! WITHIN THE ARMS OF MIGIRI'S OVERJOYED FOLLOWER, KURAHA, IS A GIRL NAMED KIKURI. SHE WAS TO BE USED IN THEIR DARK RESURRECTION RITUAL... AND YUSUKE, A YOUNG MAN WHO HAS TRACKED DOWN KIKURI ONLY TO COME FACE TO FACE WITH MIGIRI, IS THE SPITTING IMAGE OF NAONOSUKE. THE TWO SQUARE OFF. BUT YUSUKE'S ATTACKS ARE USELESS COMPARED TO MIGIRI'S SELF-HEALING POWERS. WITH HIS RIGHT HAND SEVERED AND THE SIGHT OF KIKURI'S ECSTATIC EXPRESSION AS MIGIRI SUCKS HER BLOOD OUT BURNED INTO HIS BRAIN, YUSUKE FALLS UNCONSCIOUS.

TWO YEARS LATER... A POLICE DETECTIVE NAMED HIDEKO MAEZONO COMES TO THE HOSPITAL TO ESCORT YUSUKE FROM ITS WALLS. THEIR DESTINATION IS THE POLICE DEPARTMENT'S CHURCH OF MAGORAKA COUNTERMEASURES DIVISION TASK SQUAD HEADQUARTERS, LOCATED IN A NONDESCRIPT HIGHRISE CITY APARTMENT. IN THE TWO YEARS SINCE MIGIRI'S RETURN, THE NUMBER OF VAMPIRES IN TOKYO HAS RISEN, BASED AROUND MIGIRI'S CHURCH OF MAGORAKA CULT, IN WHICH HE IS CALLED THE "YATO NO KAMI." JUST AS YUSUKE ARRIVES AT THE APARTMENT, A GROUP OF VAMPIRES INCLUDING KURAHA AND MAKIRI INFILTRATE THE BUILDING AND ATTACK THE POLICE!! WHAT IS THEIR GOAL?! WILL YUSUKE AND THE OTHERS SURVIVE THE NIGHT...?!

YUSUKE HIMUKAI

A YOUNG MAN WHO FACED OFF AGAINST MIGIRI TO TAKE KIKURI BACK. THE RESULTING FIGHT LEFT HIM IN A STATE OF SHOCK AND WITHOUT HIS RIGHT HAND. NOW HE WAS FORCED TO WIELD A GUN WITH HIS LEFT HAND.

KIKURI FUJIHARA

THE YOUNG WOMAN TAKEN FOR MIGIRI'S BRIDE TO HAVE HER BLOOD SUCKED IN HIS RESURRECTION CEREMONY.

MIGIRI

A VAMPIRE, REAWAKENED AFTER A 200 YEAR SLUMBER. FOLLOWING HIS RESURRECTION, HE CREATES THE CULT CHURCH OF MAGORAKA AND BECOMES ITS GOD, THE "YATO NO KAMI." IS ABLE TO REGENERATE HIS BODY.

MAKIRI

WITH HIS HIDDEN EYES AND FIERCE CLAWS, HE LEADS AN ATTACK SQUAD AGAINST THE ANTI-MAGORAKA FORCES. DOES HE KNOW YUSUKE?!

SAKUMA

DEPUTY CHIEF OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT'S CHURCH OF MAGORAKA COUNTERMEASURES DIVISION TASK SQUAD.

KUME

MEMBER OF THE CHURCH OF MAGORAKA COUNTER-MEASURES TASK SQUAD. RATHER ALOOF, LIKES VIDEOGAMES.

YUKI

HEAD CHIEF OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT'S CHURCH OF MAGORAKA COUNTERMEASURES DIVISION TASK SQUAD.

HIKAGE

A YOUNG MAN WHO APPEARED IN YUSUKE'S DREAMS AND LEFT HIM WITH A STRANGE MESSAGE.

HIDEKO MAEZONO

A MEMBER OF YUKI'S ANTI-MAGORAKA TASK SQUAD. SHE HAS VAMPIRE BITE MARKS ON HER NECK, AND CALLS HERSELF A "SERVANT OF THE YATO NO KAMI." SKILLED WITH A BLADE.

KURAHA

MIGIRI'S FOLLOWER WHO HELPED IN HIS RESURRECTION CEREMONY. HE IS SKILLED IN THE ART OF SHINOBI AND POSSESSES POWERS OF REGENERATION.

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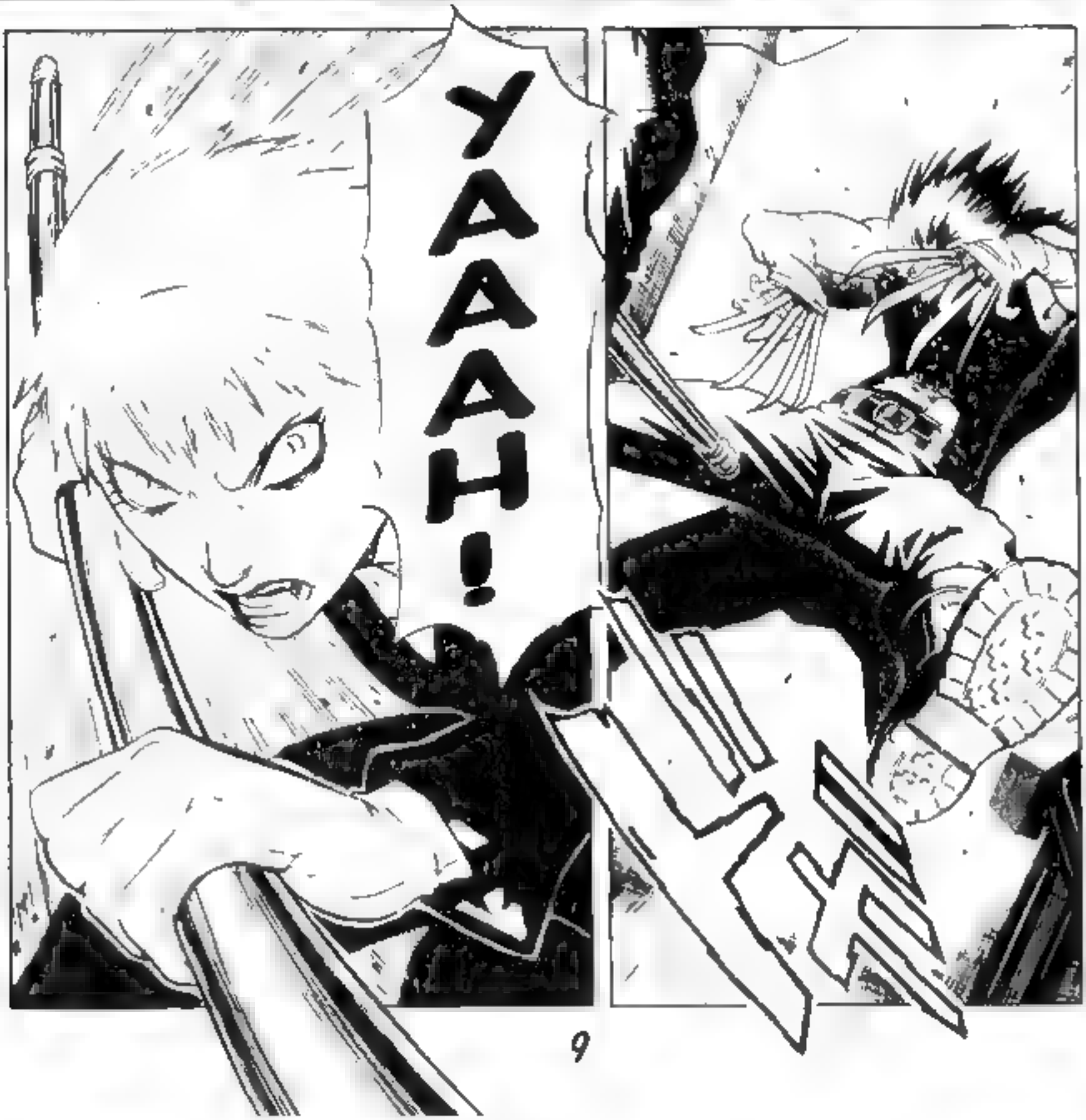

YAAAH!

YAH!

!!

SNATCH

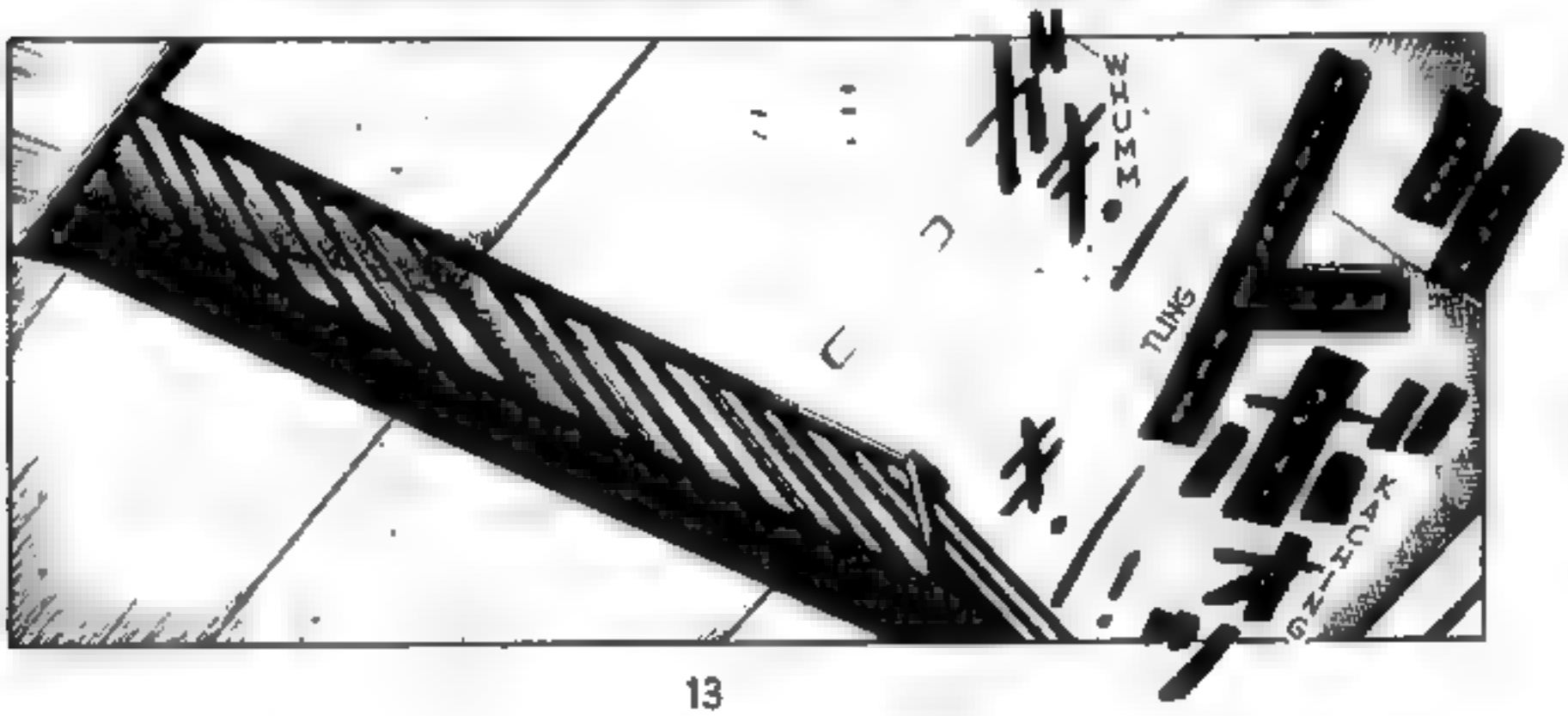
!!.....

!

GEHAAK!

DO

MAKIRI!!


ZUMI
TUNG
KACHI
GACHI

BECAUSE WE HAVE BUSINESS HERE.
WHY? WHY DID YOU RISK THIS MUCH TO ATTACK NOW, WITH THE SUNRISE SO CLOSE AT HAND?

YUSUKE!!

WITH YUSUKE?! WHAT COULD YOU POSSIBLY WANT WITH HIM *NOW*?!

YOU ASK TOO MANY QUESTIONS, HIDEKO. I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE. KURAHA IS HERE, TOO.

UNG...
HYA
HYA
HYA
!!

H-
HYAAA!!

DOES IT HURT? I'M SURE IT MUST.

LOOK, YOUR INSIDES ARE SPILLING OUT.

URRG

AAAHH

MUST BE HARD FOR A HALF-ASS LIKE YOU TO BEAR.

YOU MIGHT DIE, IF YOU CAN'T REGENERATE YOURSELF

ISN'T IT CONSTANTLY PUTTING YOUR FRIENDS AND PARTNERS IN DANGER?

ISN'T IT TOUGH, ALWAYS BEING SO HALF-ASSED?

WHAT DO YOU SAY?

COME BE MY SERVANT, HIDEKO. YOU'RE WELCOME ANY TIME.

VERY WELL.

G-GO FUCK YOURSELF.. KILL ME..

KILL ME !!

RAVAGE

!!!

ガラッ

DASH!

YUSUKE...
YUSUKE'S ON
THE ROOF.

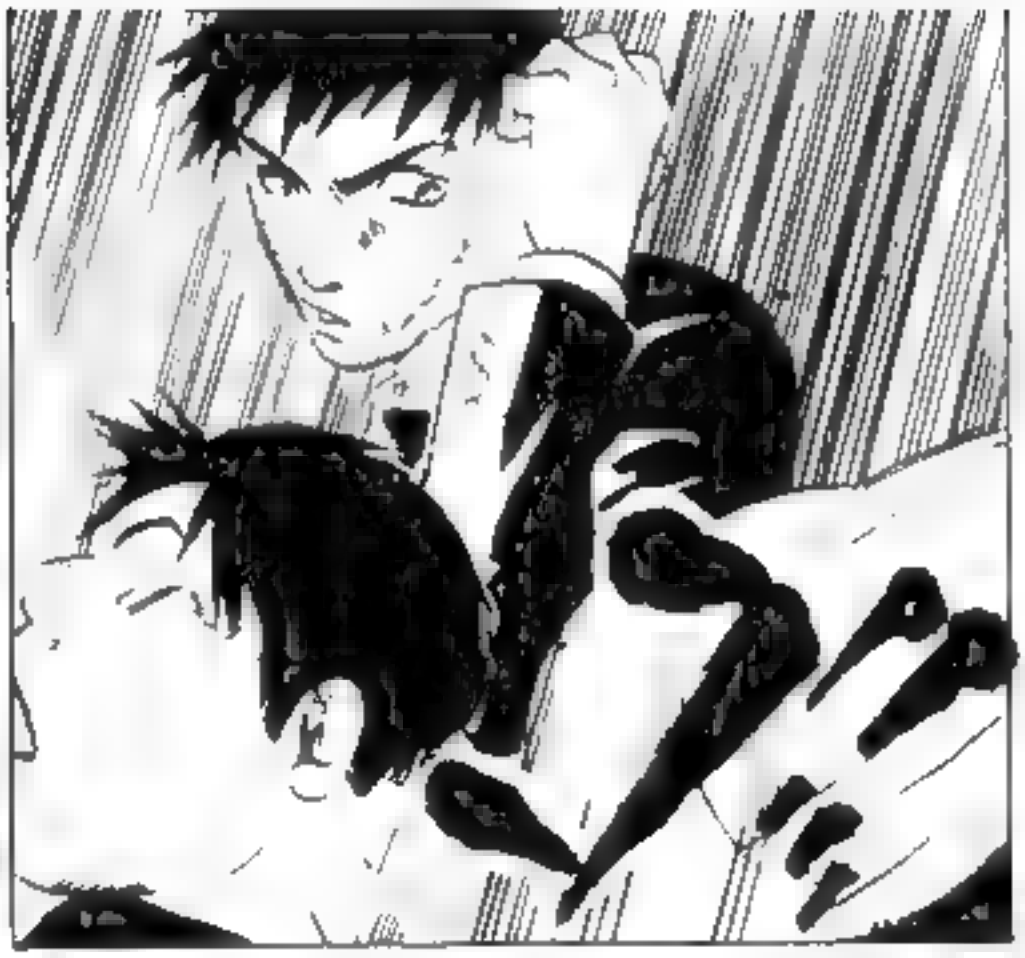
NGGI
AAAHI

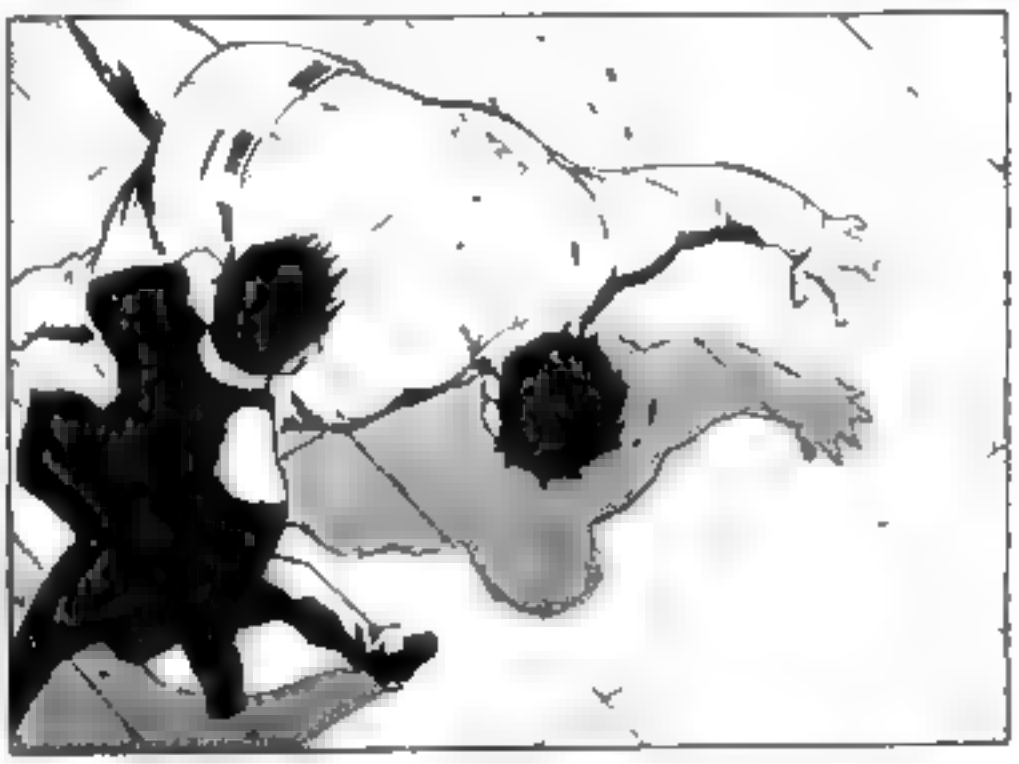
ARE YOU
ALL RIGHT,
AGENT
MAEZONO?!

AAAAH

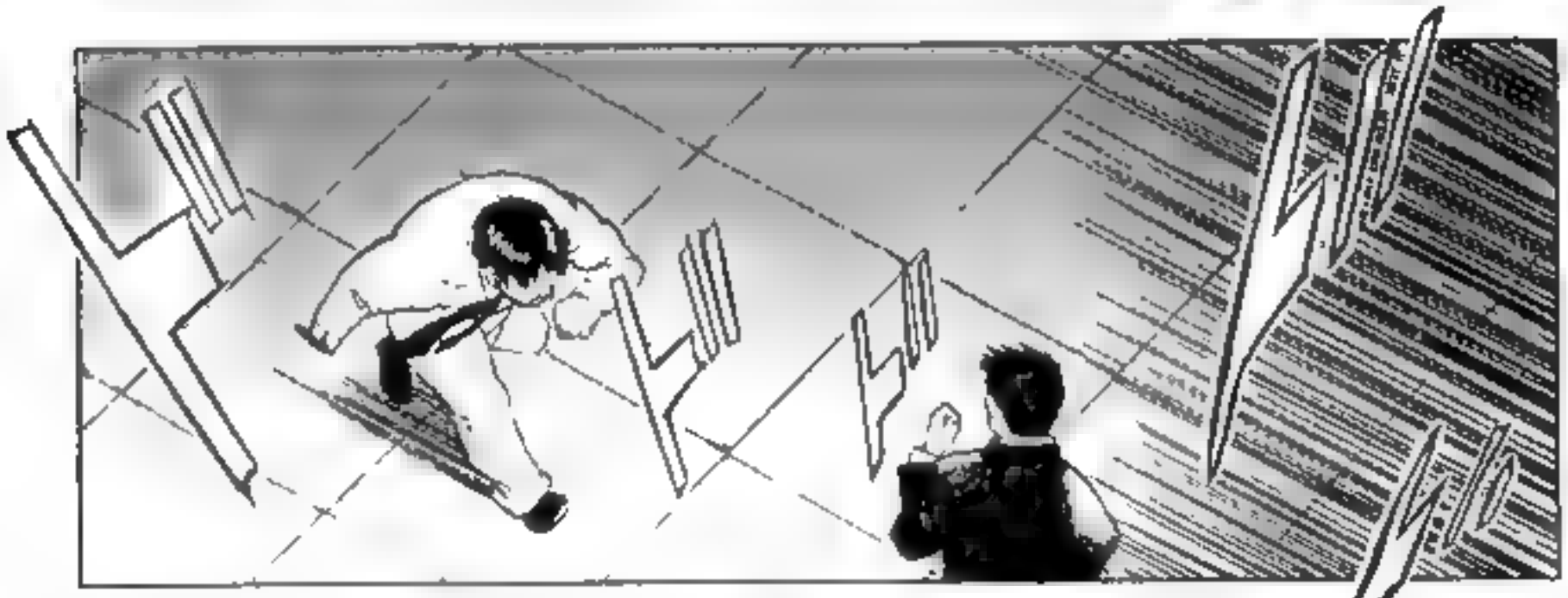
CRUNCH

ナルト





HUP



SLAP

HUH

.....

THUD

MMAAAH

MMMMMINCEMEAT!!

MMMINCEMEAT!!

IS HE GETTING FASTER?!

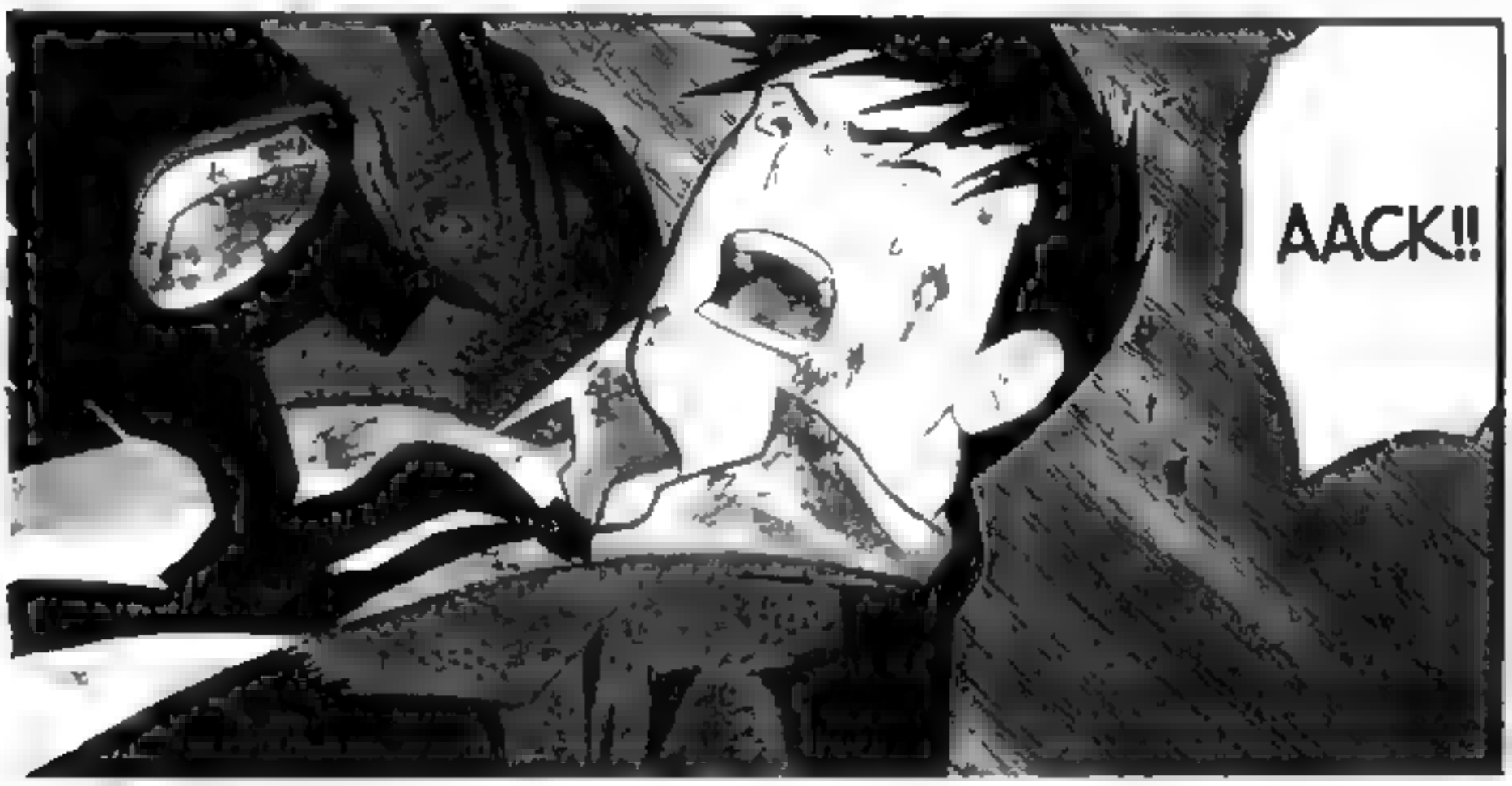
Chapter 1 –
Soiled Fangs 7

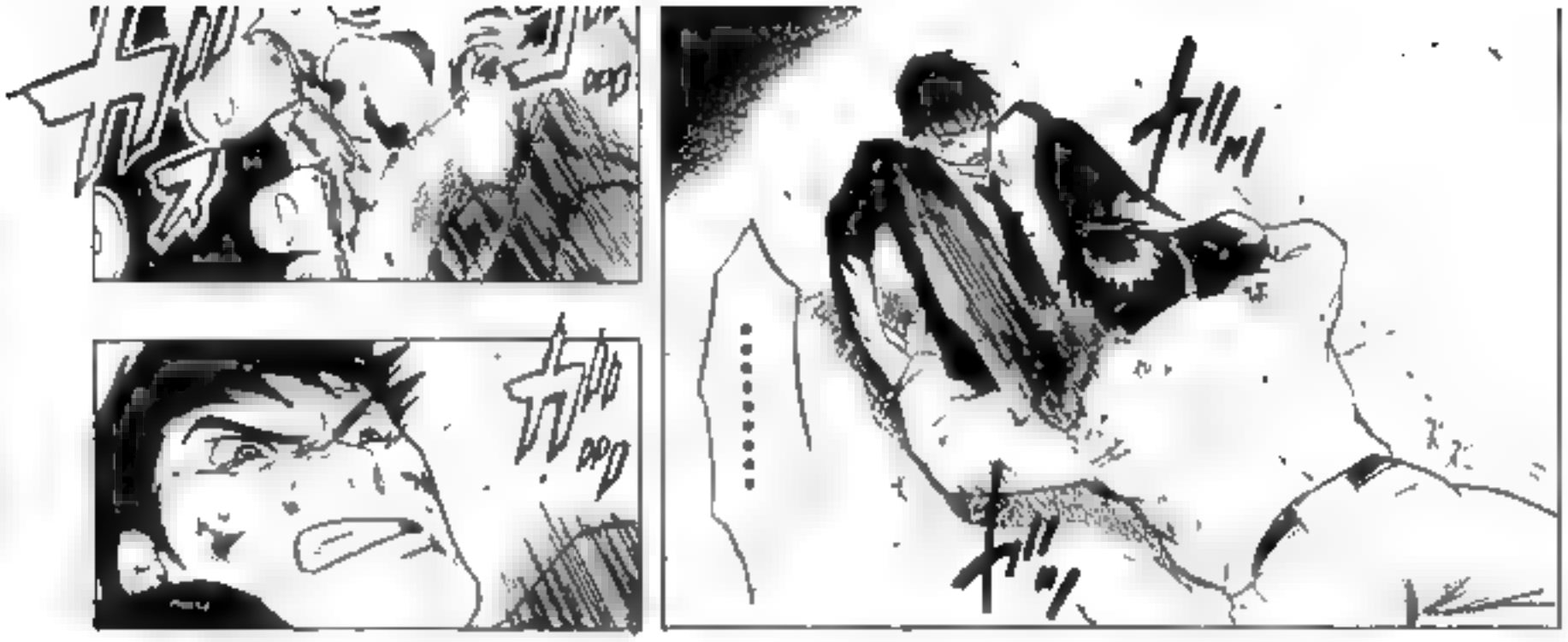
JUST *DIE* ALREADY!!

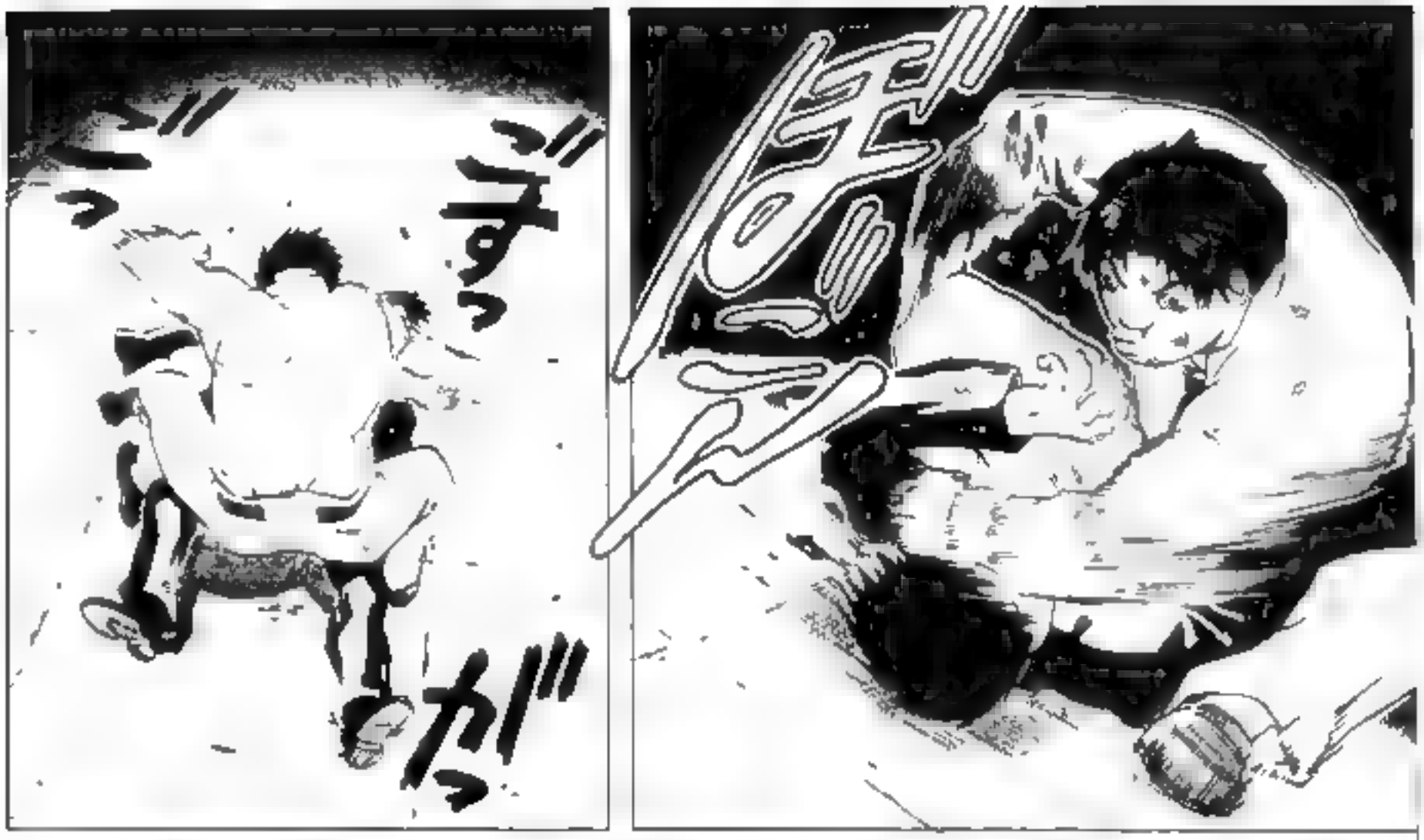
Chapter 1 —

Soiled Fangs 7

!!


AACK!!


NOW IT'S *MY* TURN TO MINCE *YOU.*
YOU WERE MINCING *ME.*
HEE HEE


ずっ
ガ!!

HA
HA
!
...RIGHT NOW...?
AM I... GOING TO DIE, RIGHT HERE...?

RIGHT HERE, YUSUKE. YOU AIM FOR THE EYES.

H-
HIKAGE...

ブッカー!!

SQUEEZE

BWAHH

UWAAGHHH

HOW DO I KILL HIM, NOW?

HUFF

YAAAA!!

AAAHH!

AAUGH!

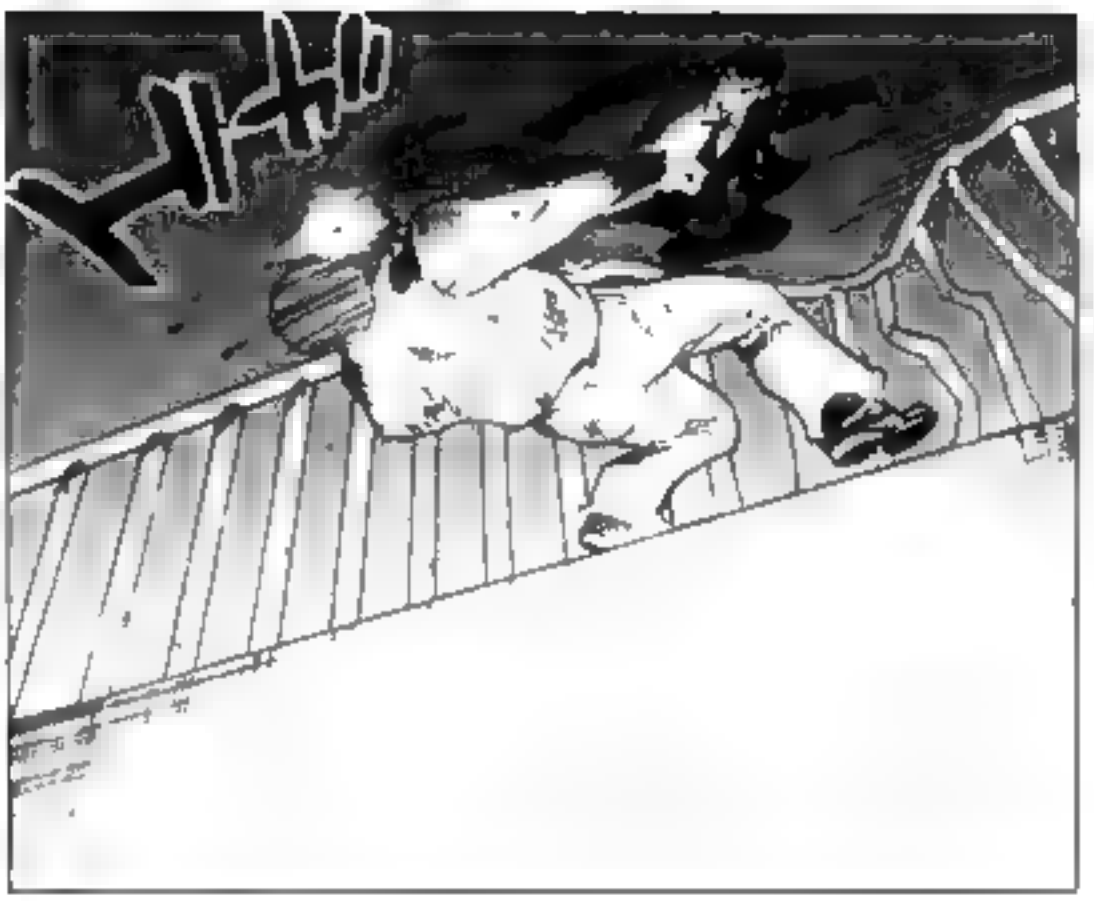
ドゴッ!

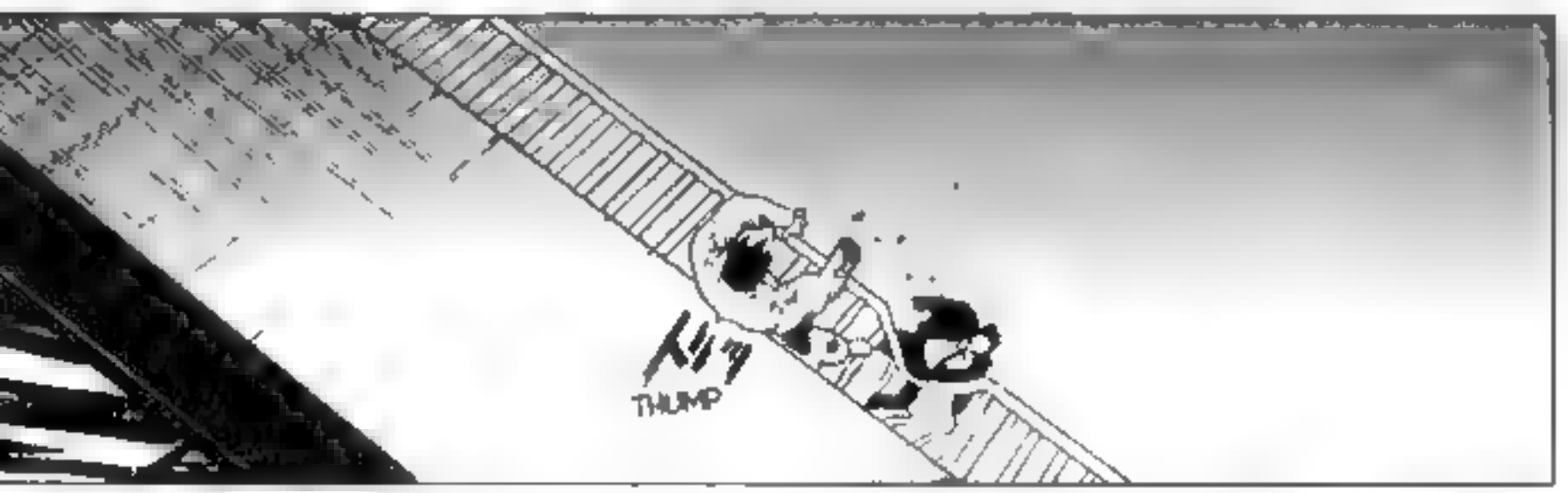
GACK!

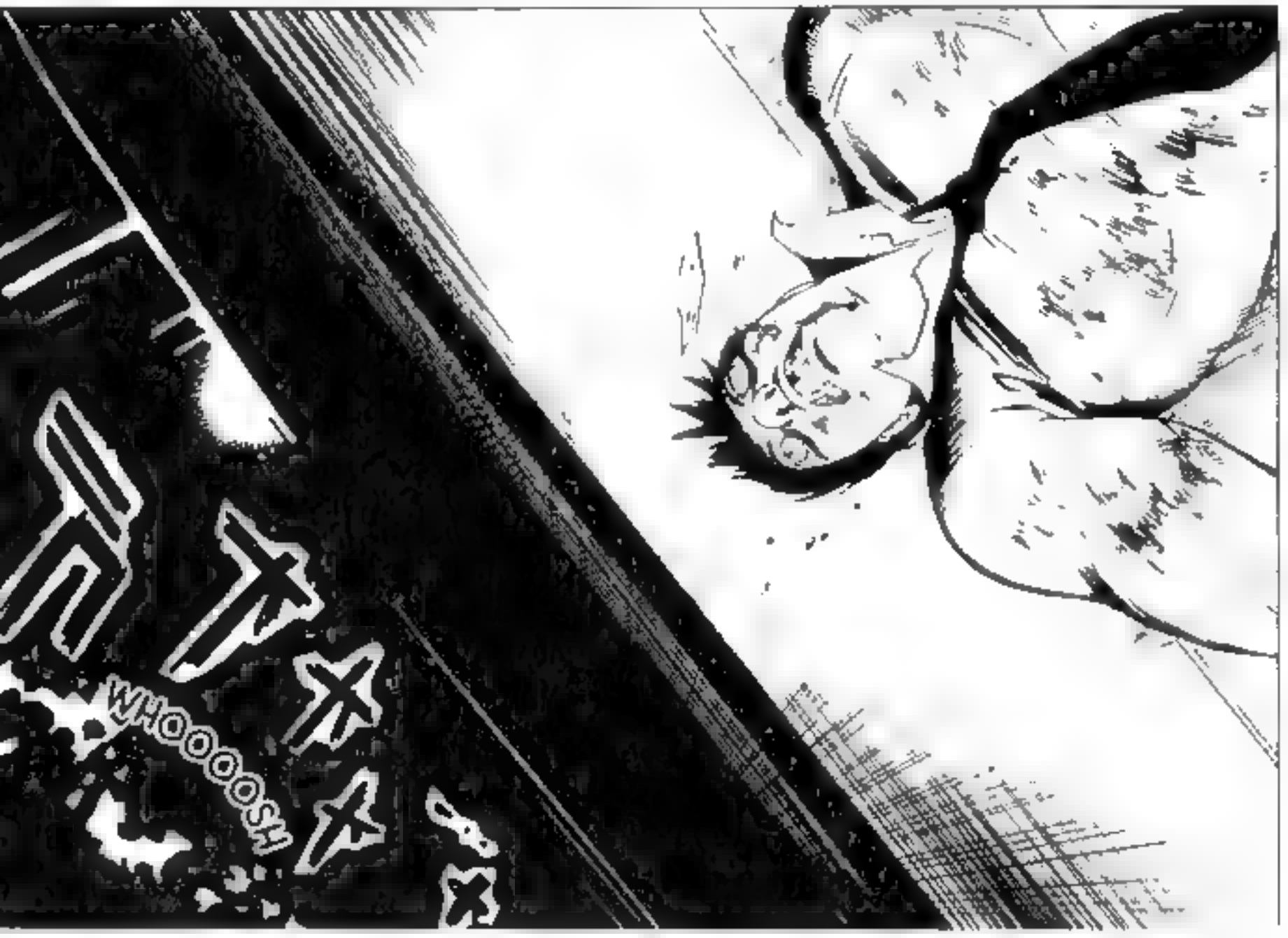
HNG...

COUGH!

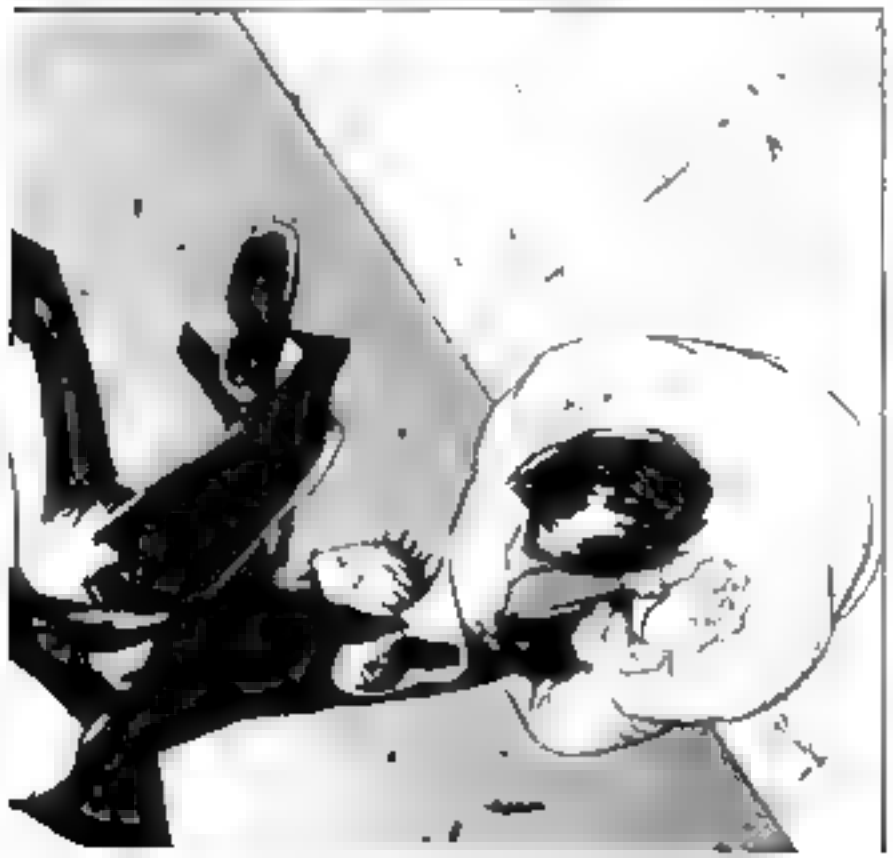
GASP




THUMP


WHOOOOSH

FALL OFF AND DIE!!



UH...

NNG...

SNAP

ドドド

ドドド

ドドド

IT'S WONDERFUL WHAT A *GLORIOUS* THING!

I CAN SEE. I CAN *SEE* IT!

ALL OF THE CELLS IN MY BODY CAN FEEL THE WIND, THE LIGHT, THE WAVES OF THE *UNIVERSE*!

AND THEY PERFECTLY EMBODY THE BEING THAT IS *MEI*

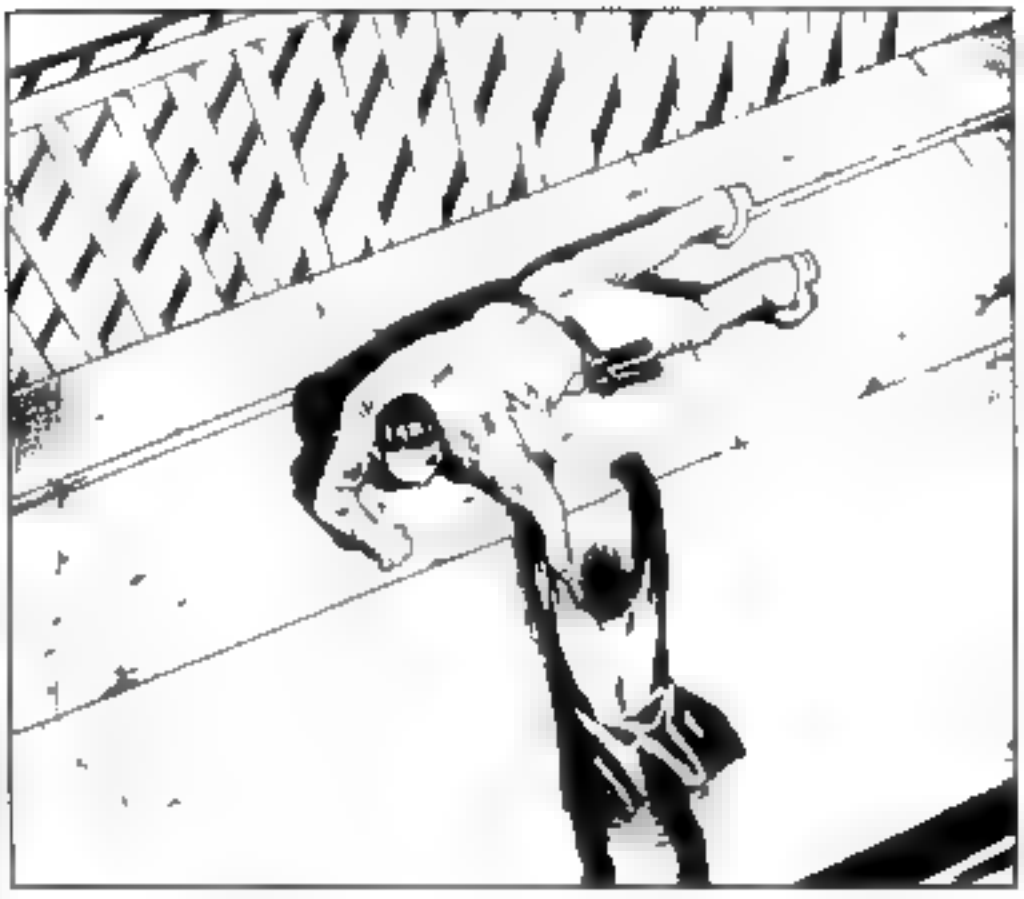
!!

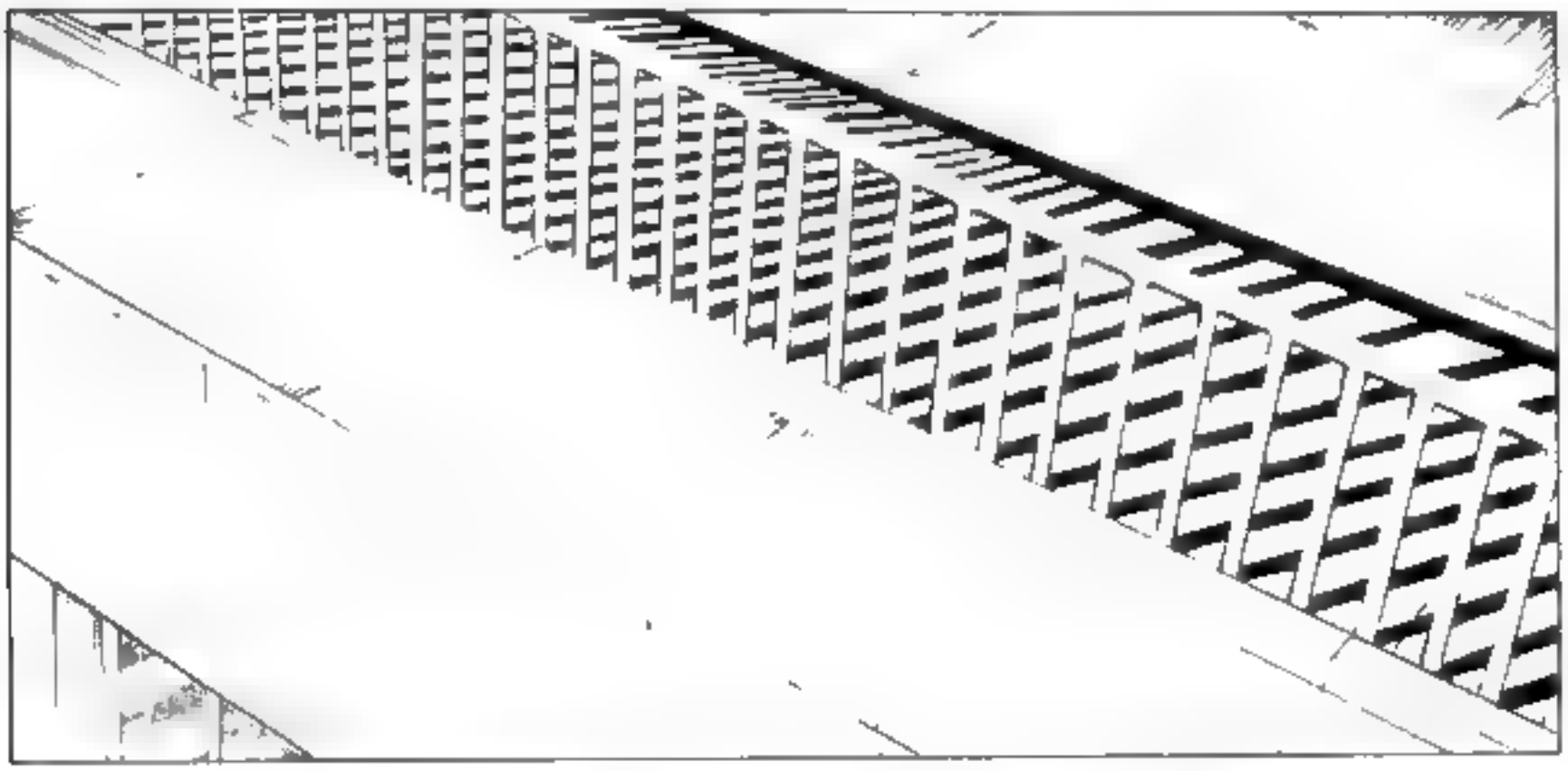
THIS POWER, THIS EXISTENCE IS THE VERY ESSENCE OF "ART" ITSELF!!

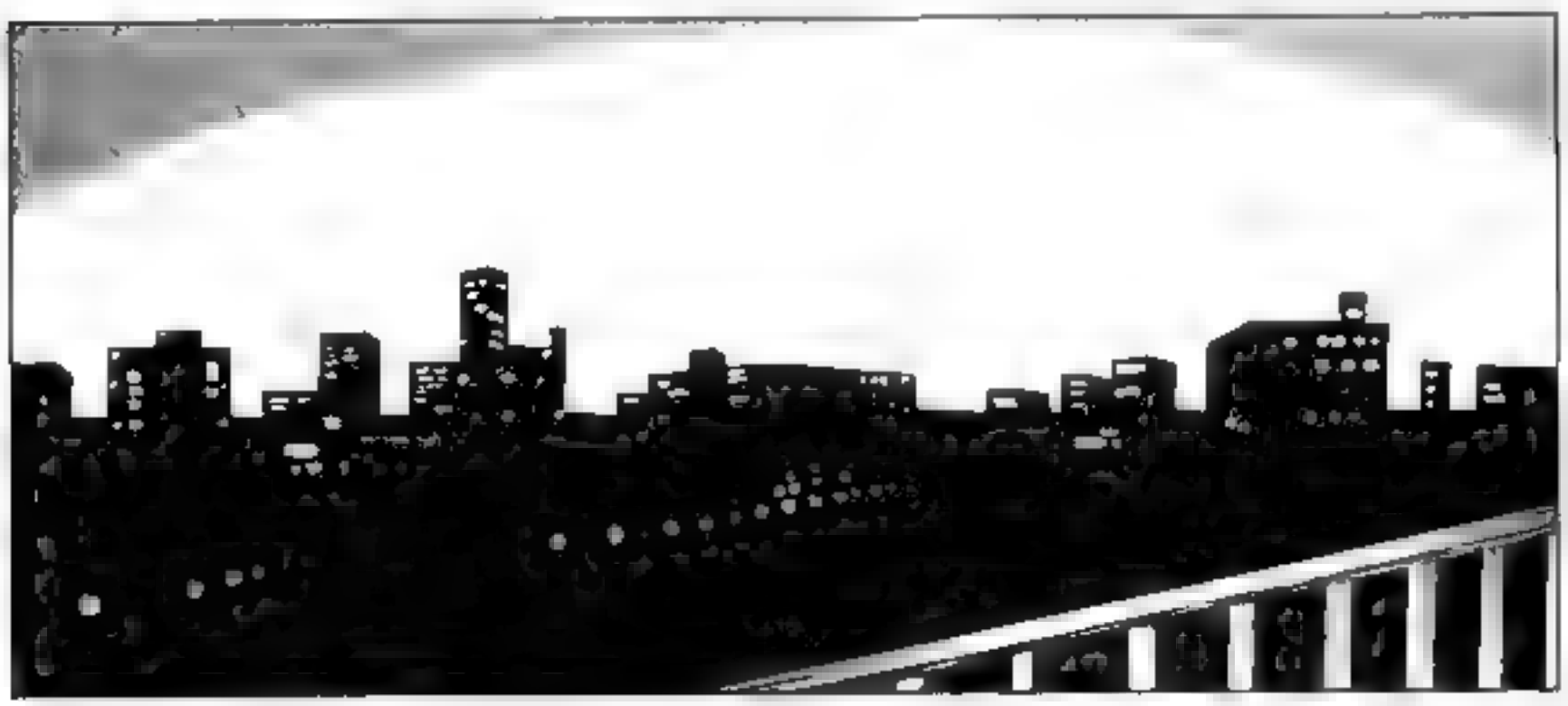
ゴオオオオオオオオ……

WHIRL

SORRY I'M LATE, SAKUMA. BUT I PROMISED.

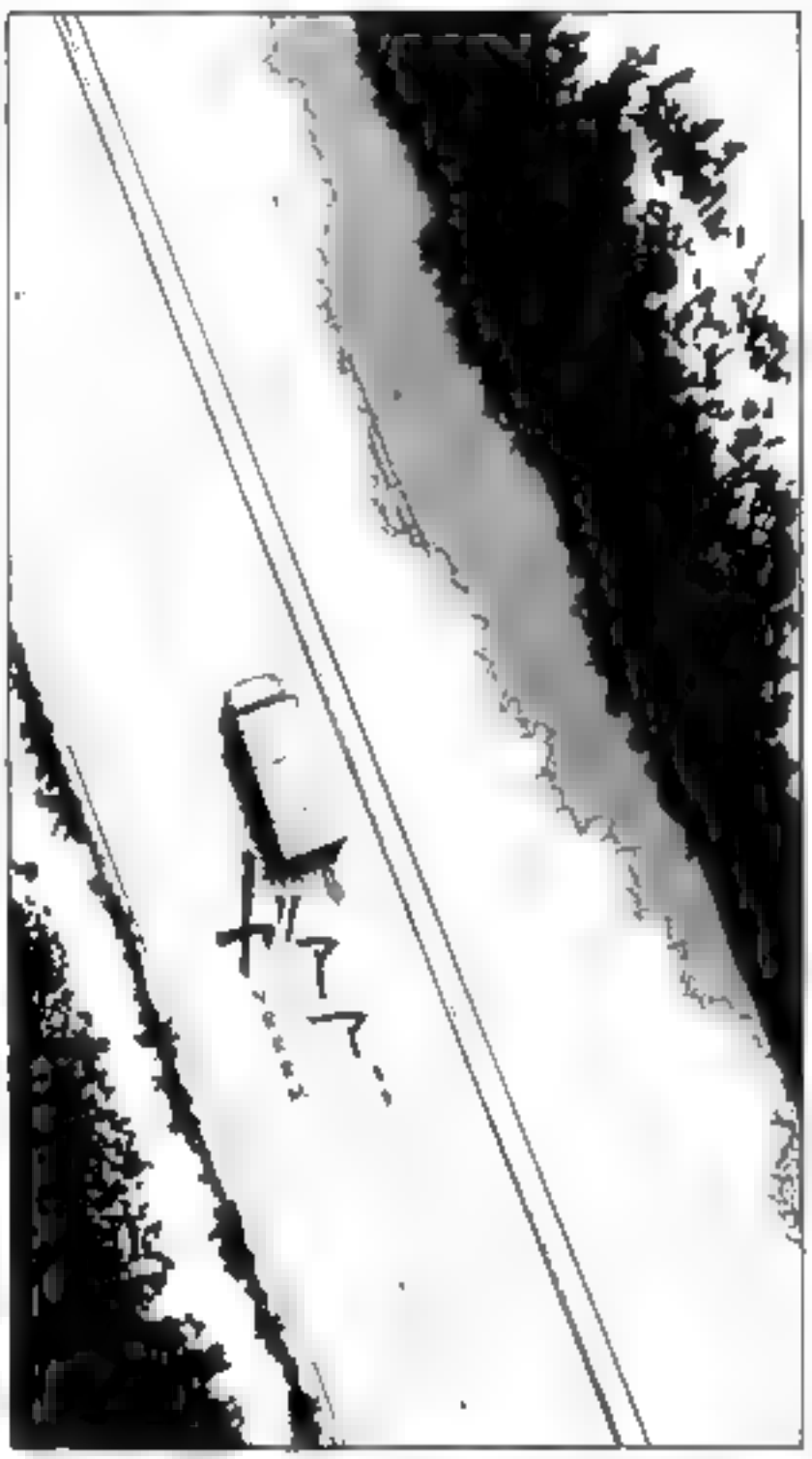






KUME... CAN YOU WRAP MY SCARF AROUND MY HEAD FOR ME?

YOU CAN'T DIE HERE. YOU "SERVANTS OF THE YATO NO KAMI" ARE OUR ONLY HOPE.



DID YOU KILL HIM?

.....

I'M NOT GOING TO STAND FOR ANYONE ELSE KILLING HIM, NOT EVEN YOU--

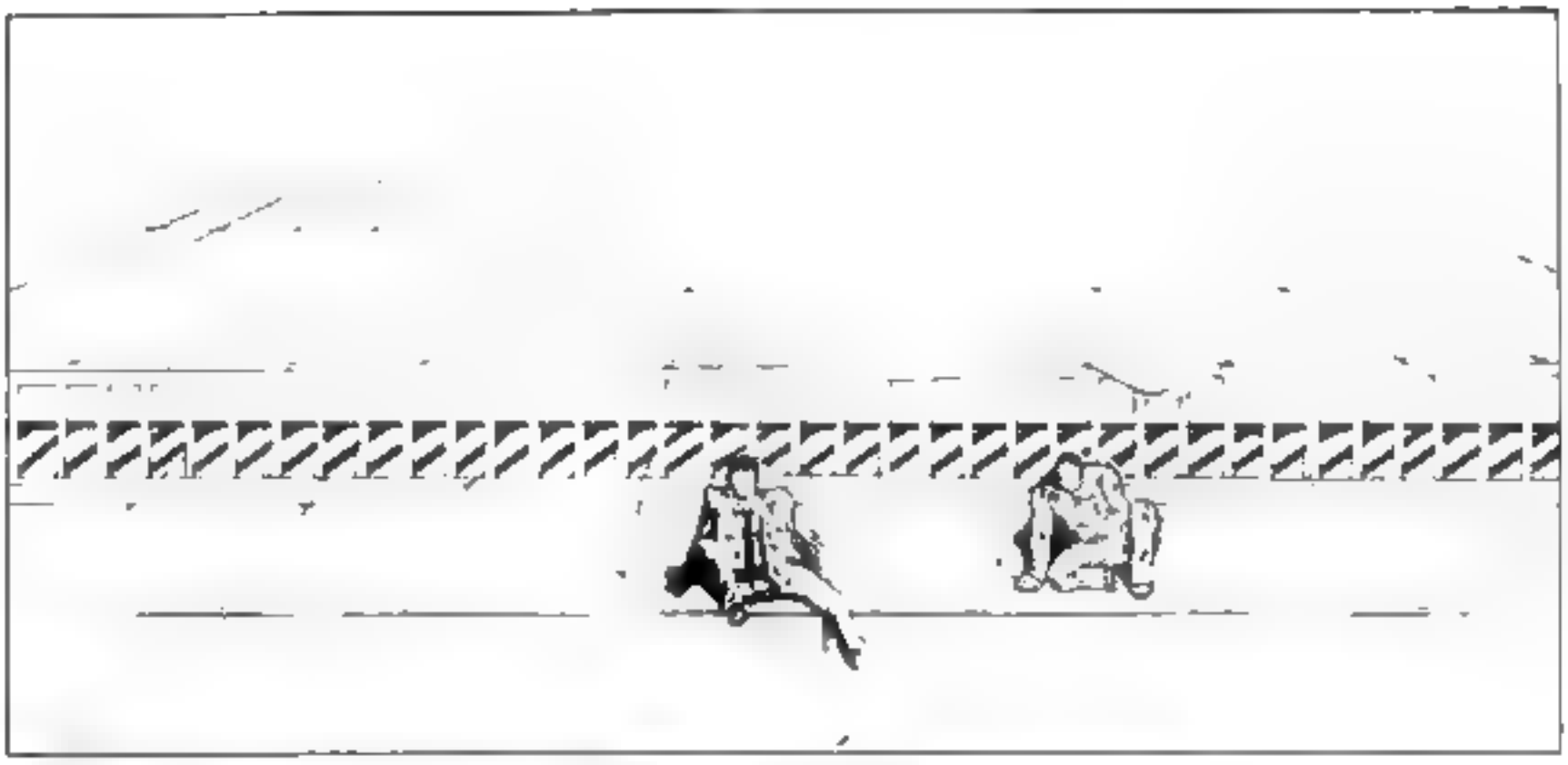
I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU, KURAHA.

THE LAWS OF THE EARTH FORCE US TO LIVE IN ETERNAL NIGHT. WE CANNOT AFFECT THE HEAVENS.

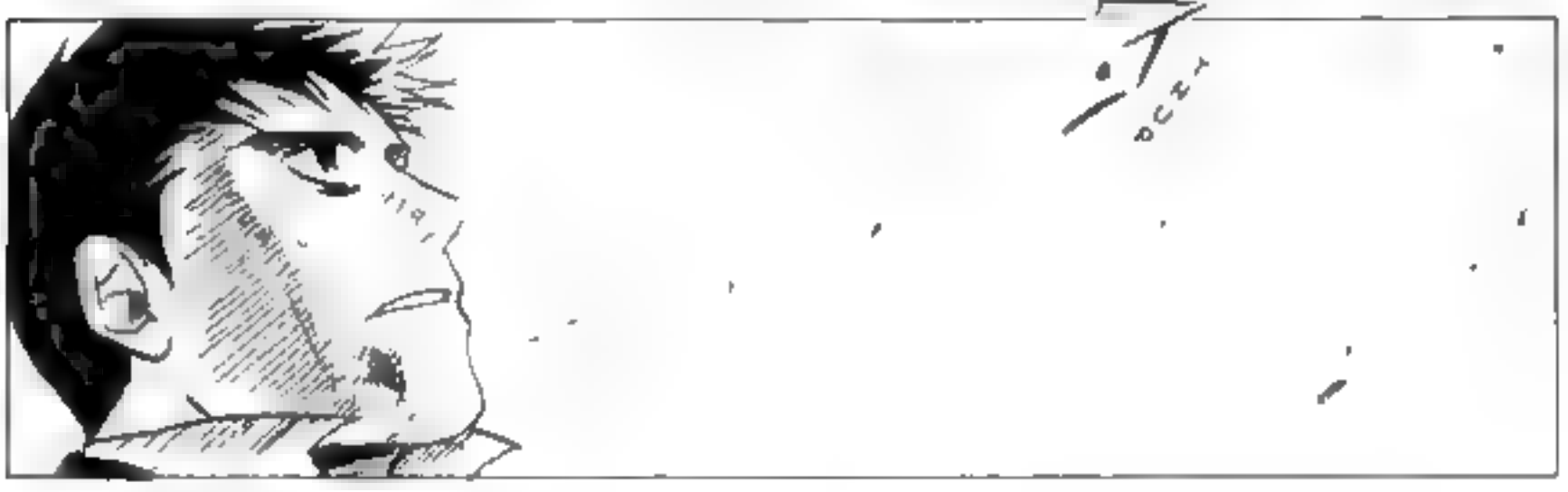
.....

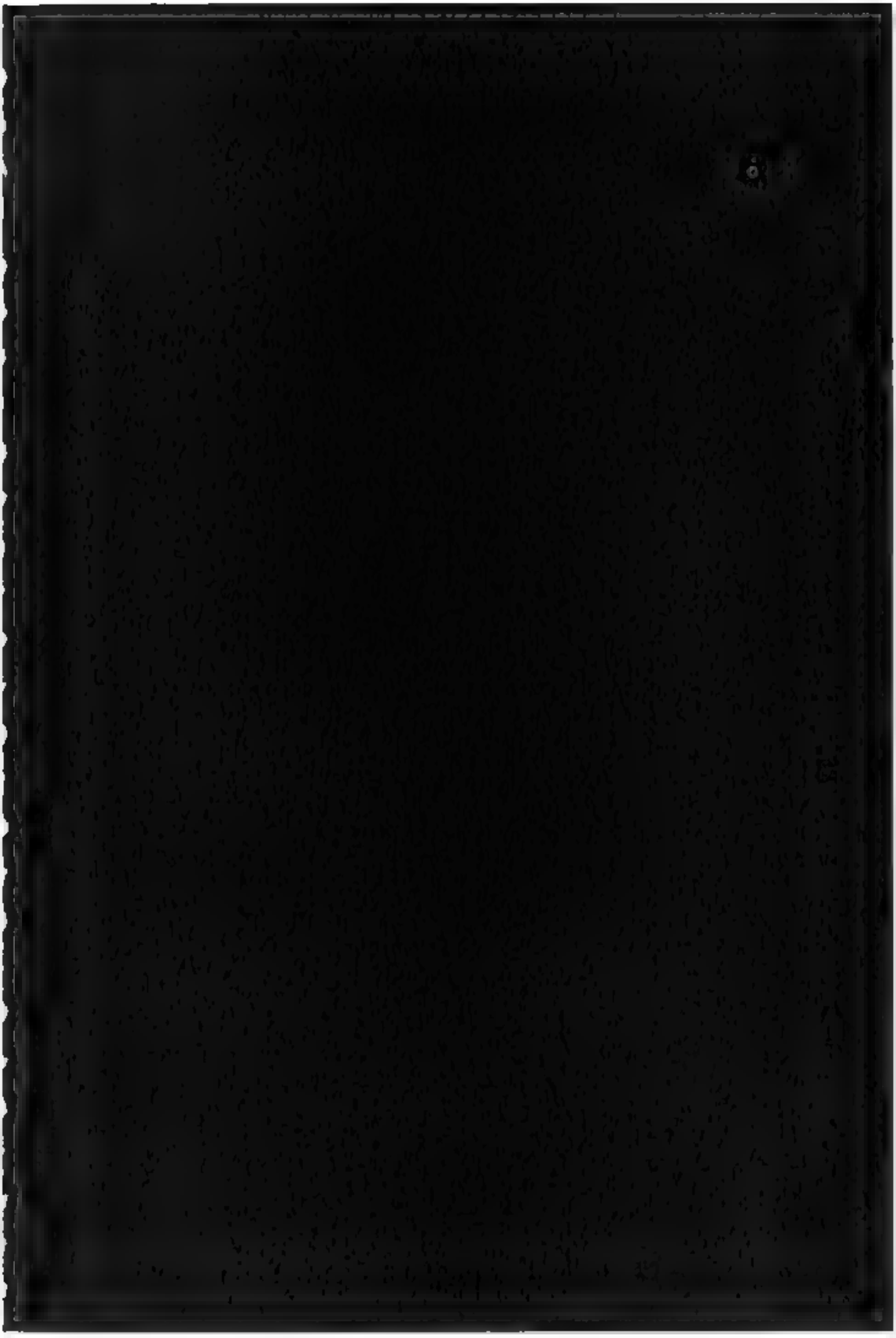
IT IS NOT WE WHO WILL BURY YUSUKE HIMUKAI.

HE'S
MINE!!
ZZZZ
...

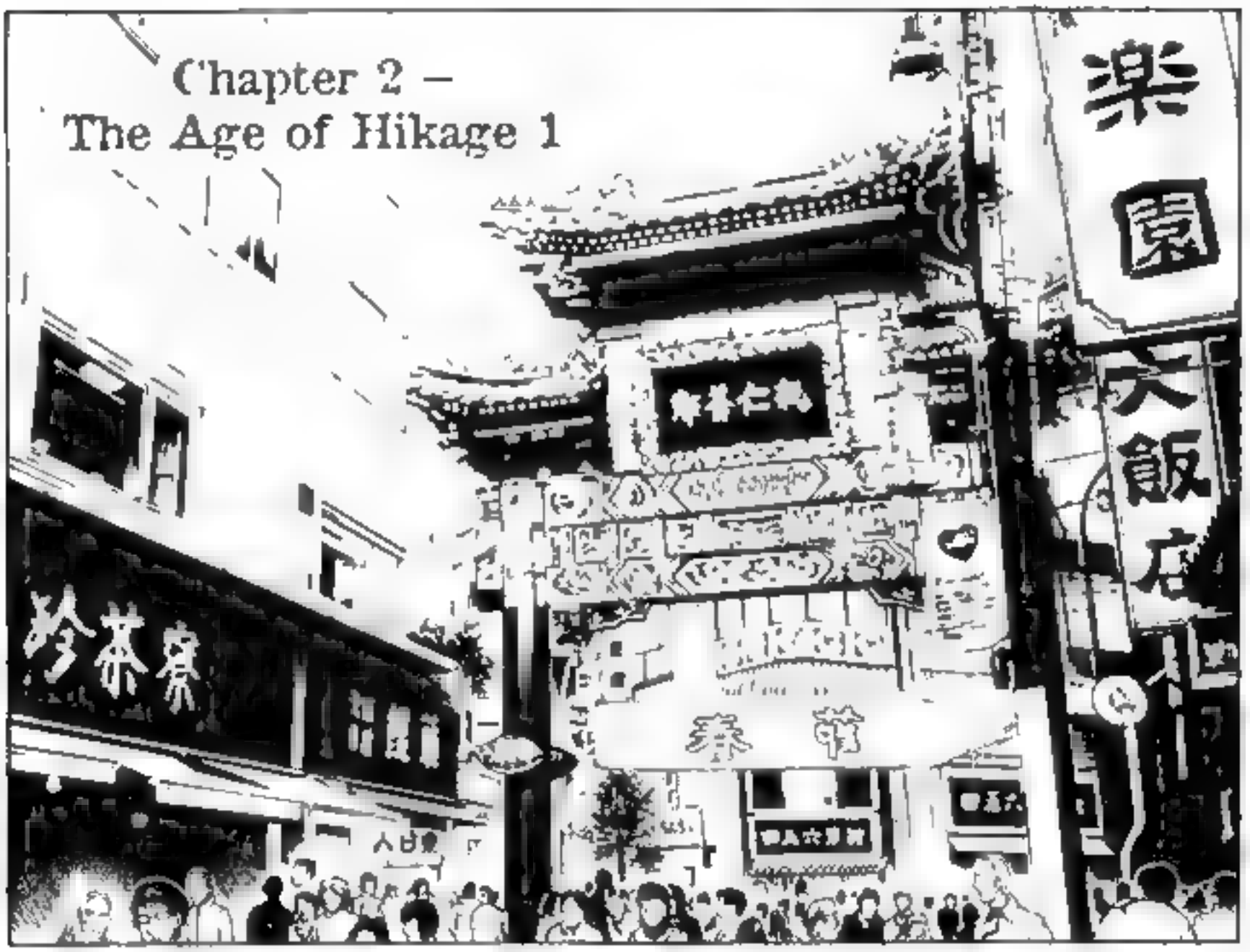


H
O
THUP
THUP


DCZ



Chapter 2 –
The Age of Hikage 1



MONDAY

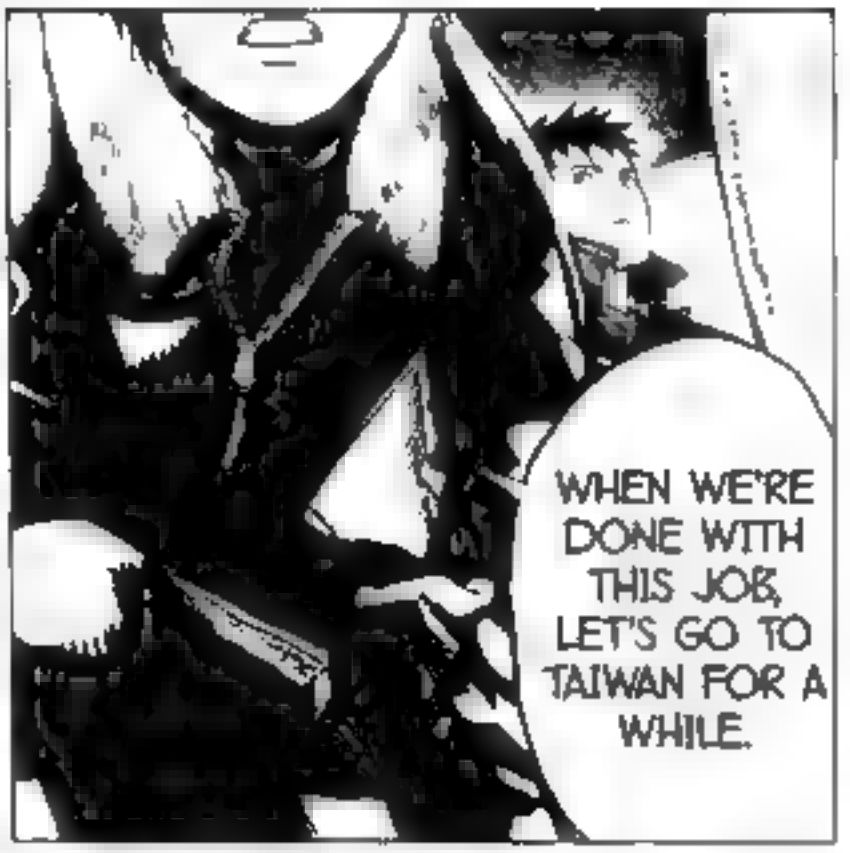
Chapter 2 –
The Age of Hikage
1

ARE WE GONNA DIE?

I GOT A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS SHIT, MAN. I DON'T LIKE IT ONE BIT.

MAYBE. THAT'S ALL I'M SAYING.

MIGHT AS WELL STICK WITH YOU, HIKAGE. I DON'T HAVE ANYWHERE ELSE TO GO.


WHEN WE'RE DONE WITH THIS JOB, LET'S GO TO TAIWAN FOR A WHILE.

OF COURSE, YOU HAVE NOWHERE ELSE TO RETURN TO. ORPHANAGES ONLY TAKE KIDS.

バタン
THE "DEER" IS WEARING A WHITE MUFFLER.
HE'S GOT THREE "DOGS."

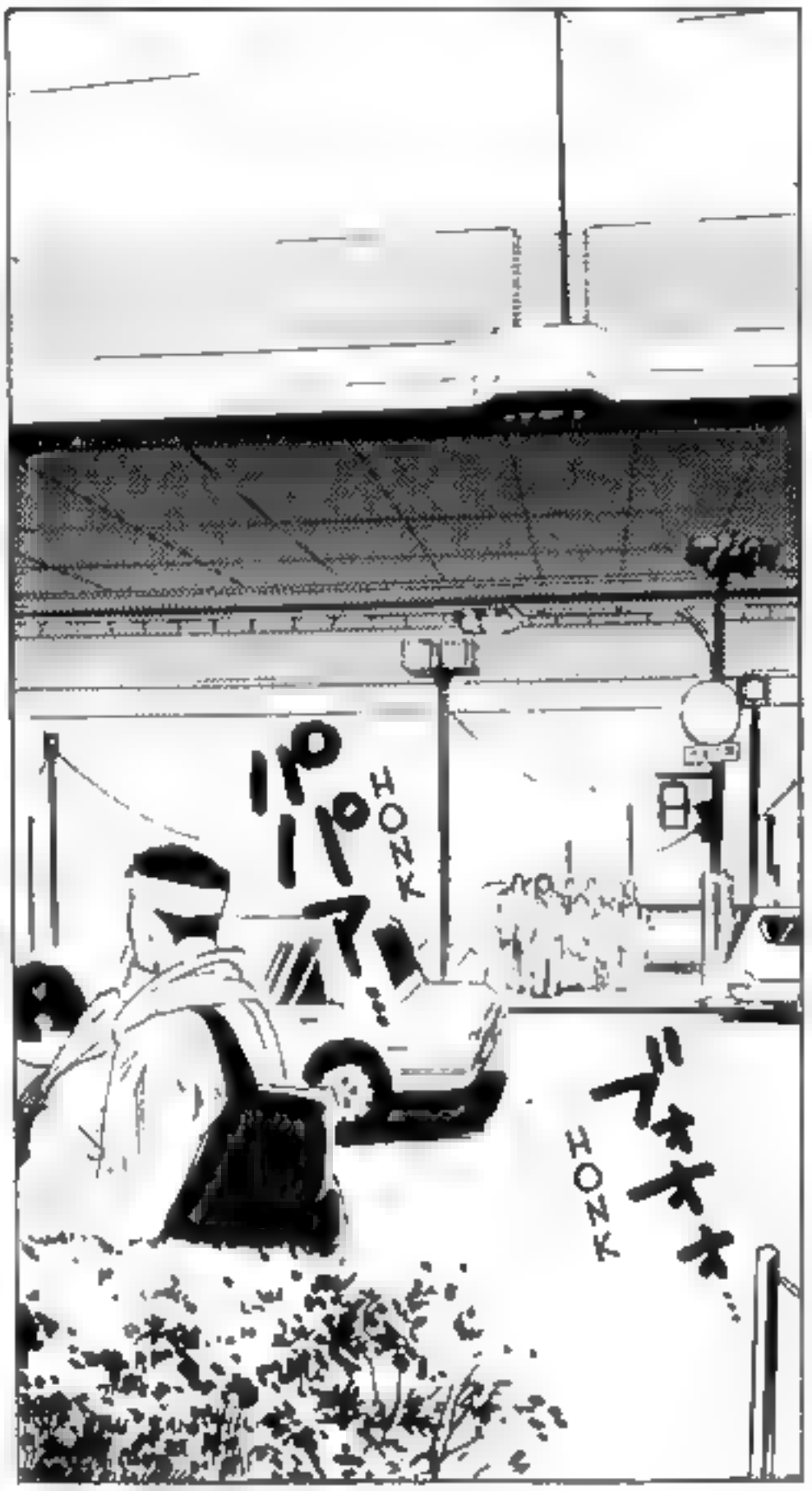
I'M GONNA GUN THE CAR TO PICK YOU UP 45 SECONDS AFTER THE LIGHT CHANGES.

YEAH. THEY'RE EX-COPS. YOU CAN IGNORE THEM.

CAN WE HANDLE THE "DOGS," HIIRAGI?

MAH. SOMEHOW I DOUBT THEY'LL BE CONSIDERATE ENOUGH TO IGNORE US IN RETURN.

USE YOUR PISTOL.



I'LL BE FINE.
PUT ON YOUR MASK, YUSUKE. THREE DOGS IN 45 SECONDS WILL BE TOUGH.
.....

BRRRM
BUUUU
BUUUU

ドドド

FUK

!!

TOKUDA!
MIZUHARA!!

RAAAH!!

?!

AAAGH?!
AAAAAAHH!!

EEEEK!
……

!!

I'LL BEAT YOUR FREAKIN' HEAD TO A PULP!!

SQUEEZE

.....

HIKAGE...

BANG

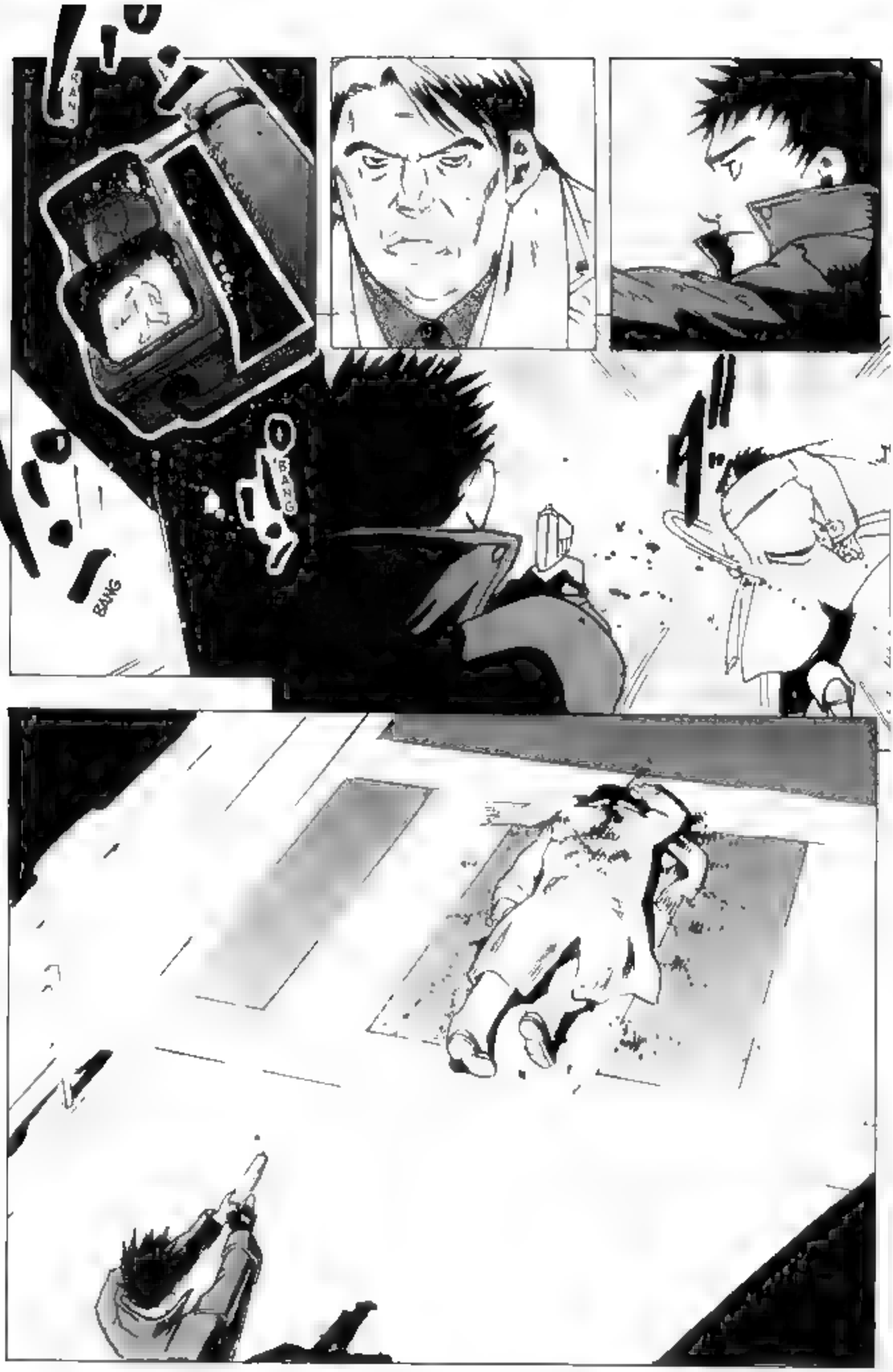
BANG

!!

ドゴォ

AAAAAAAAGH!!

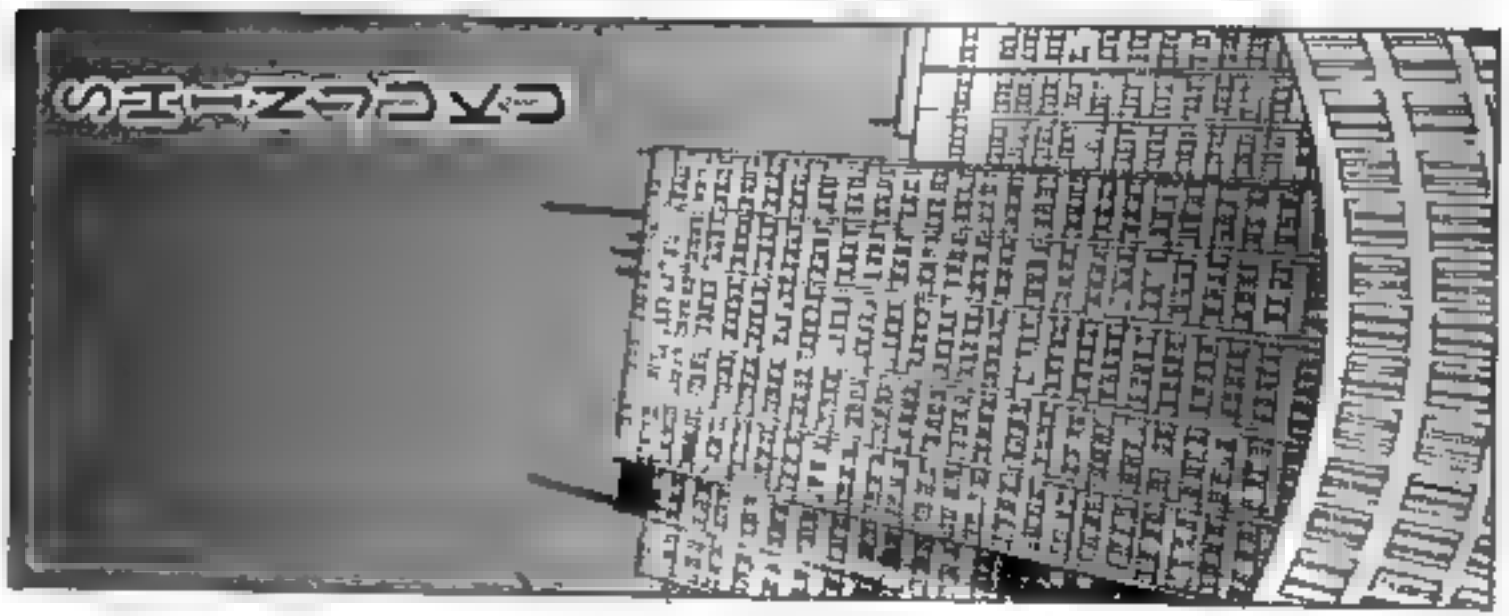
あああああ

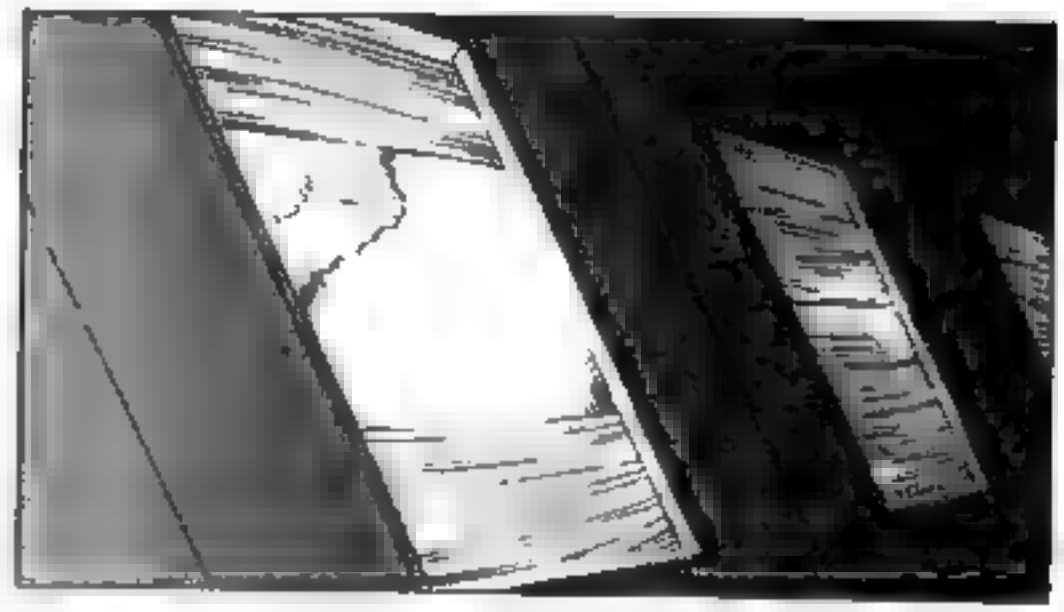

BANG
BANG

SCREECH

SLAM

GRMMMM...


ゲームセンターの



HELP
...
HELP ME,
PLEASE
HELP ME..

!

HUFF
HUFF

HUFF

HUFF
HUFF

ドサ
FUD

"GAIN LONG, AND YOU WILL SOON WANT SHU."

FLAP

MASTER KAZUMA, WHAT SHALL WE DO ABOUT WU YING BI'S ASSASSINS MURDERING NIRASAWA?

NOTE: THIS IS A QUOTE TAKEN FROM THE ROMANCE OF THE THREE KINGDOMS. LONG AND SHU ARE TWO AREAS OF CHINA, NOW KNOWN AS GANSU AND SICHUAN SZECHUAN, RESPECTIVELY.

HIROOHJI, DO YOU BELIEVE I HOLD ASPIRATIONS BEYOND MY CALIBER?

THAT IS A SAYING KURAHA TAUGHT ME. IT MEANS THAT DESIRE KNOWS NO BOUNDS.

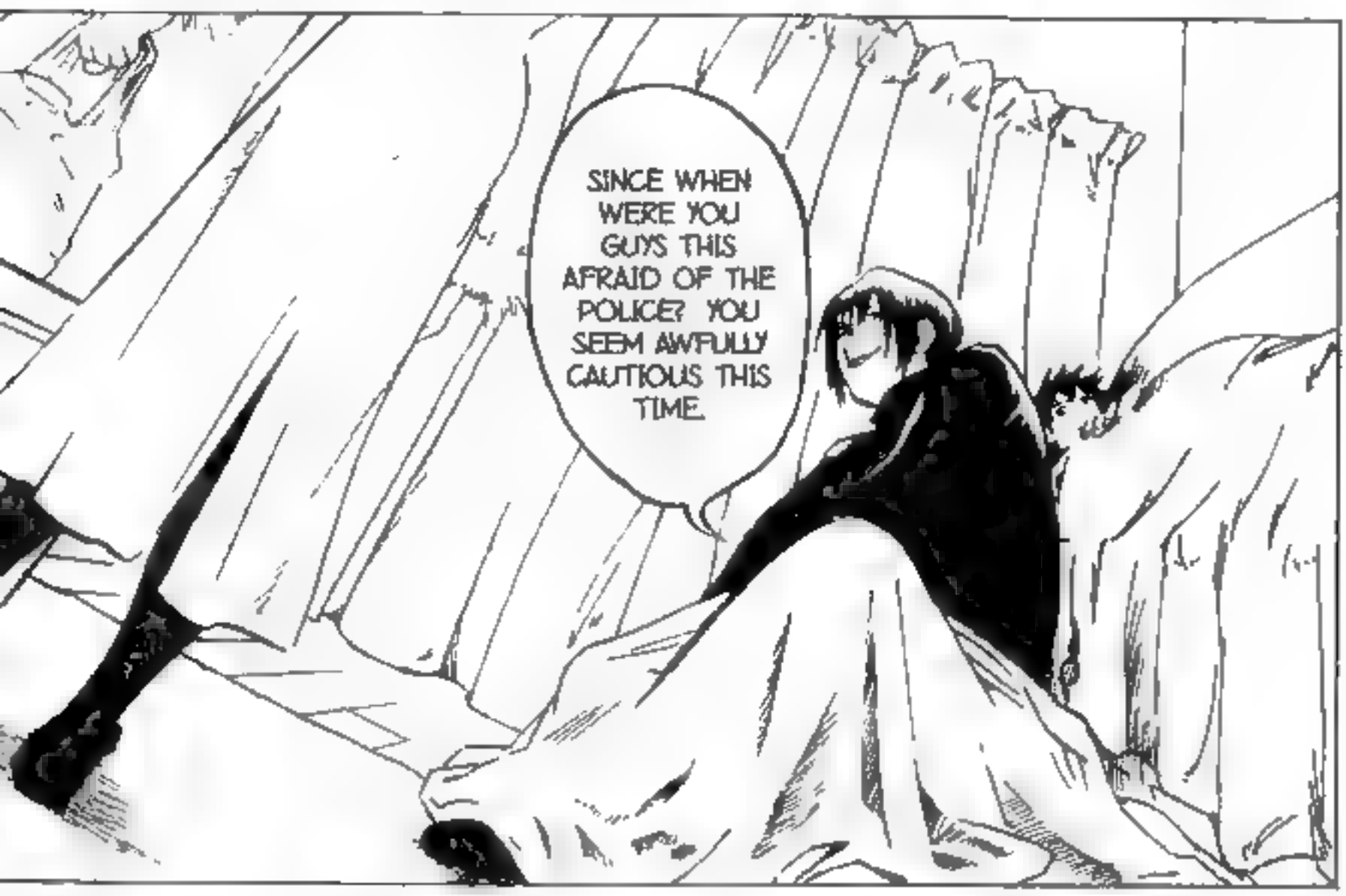
NEITHER DO I.

I DO NOT, SIR.

TUESDAY

TWEET TWEET...

FOR THE NEXT WEEK, YOU TWO ARE NOT ALLOWED TO LEAVE THIS ROOM, AT LEAST UNTIL THE POLICE FINISH THEIR INITIAL INVESTIGATION. I'LL BRING YOU FOOD EVERY MORNING.
CLICK


SINCE WHEN WERE YOU GUYS THIS AFRAID OF THE POLICE? YOU SEEM AWFULLY CAUTIOUS THIS TIME.

WE WANNA HIGHTAIL IT TO THE AIRPORT AND ENJOY SOME QUALITY VACATION TIME ASAP

NOT THAT I KNOW WHO THAT WOULD BE.

THEY SAY SOMETHING WAS FUNNY WITH THE CONTRACT. THERE ARE MORE FRIGHTENING PEOPLE OUT THERE THAN THE POLICE.

I'LL BE LIVING HERE AND WORKING AS A HOSTESS AT A CLUB IN GINZA UNTIL THIS BLOWS OVER.

YOU SHOULD TAKE HER UP ON THAT, YUSUKE.

IF YOU WANT WOMEN, YOU'LL HAVE TO MAKE DO WITH ME.

I DON'T FEEL A THING.

HOW MANY? DOES THIS MAKE NOW? HOW MANY PEOPLE HAVE I KILLED?

ALL I HAVE IS MEANINGLESS DEATH BEFORE MY EYES, AGAIN AND AGAIN.

I DON'T FEEL GUILT. I DON'T EVEN FEEL *ALIVE.*

HIKAGE, DO YOU THINK I'M CUT OUT FOR THIS WORK?

YUSUKE~

I DUNNO.

YOU BET IT DOES.

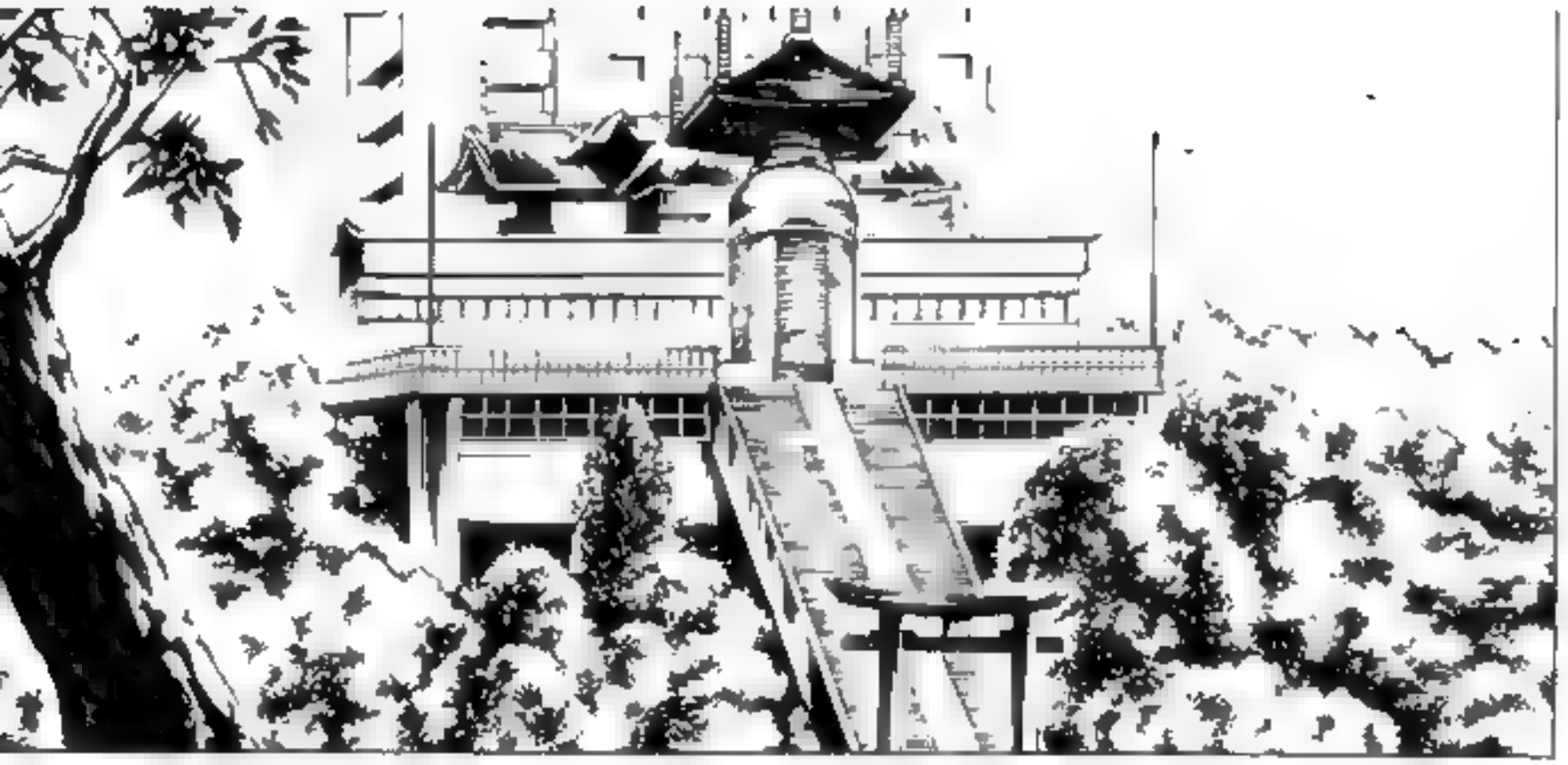
DOES IT EXCITE YOU TO KILL PEOPLE, HIKAGE?

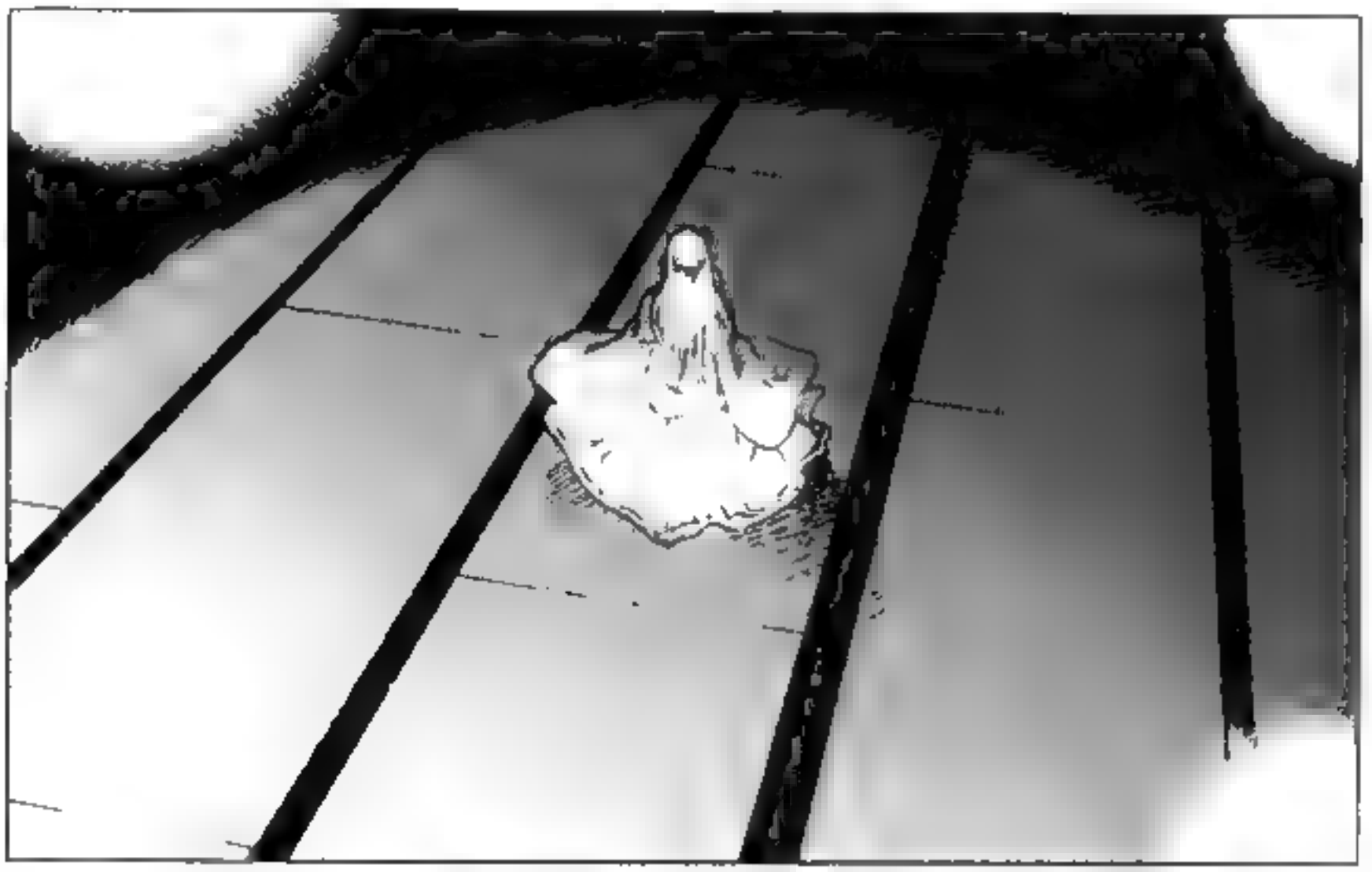
HEH HEH HEH... WHAT ABOUT YOU, HIIRAGI?

THERE'S YOUR ANSWER.

WHY AM I LIVING?

WHY DO I KILL PEOPLE?





IT IS TIME, LADY KIKURI.

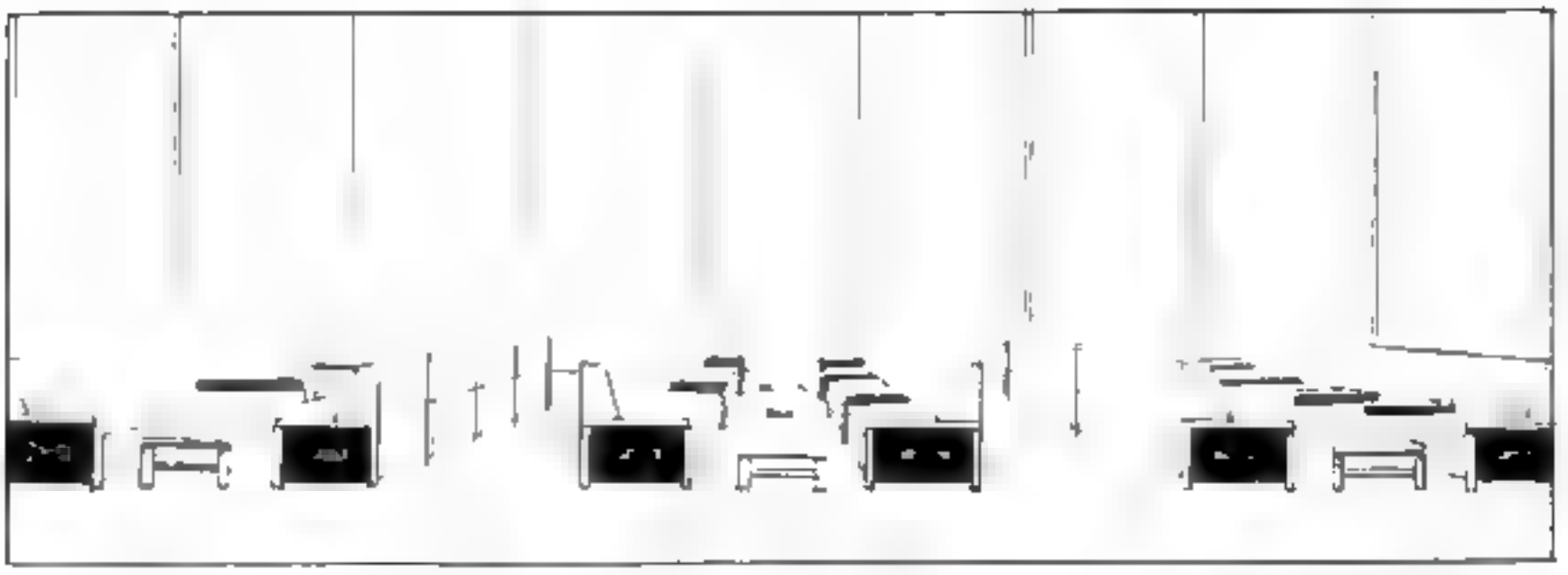
...

TAMAYO...

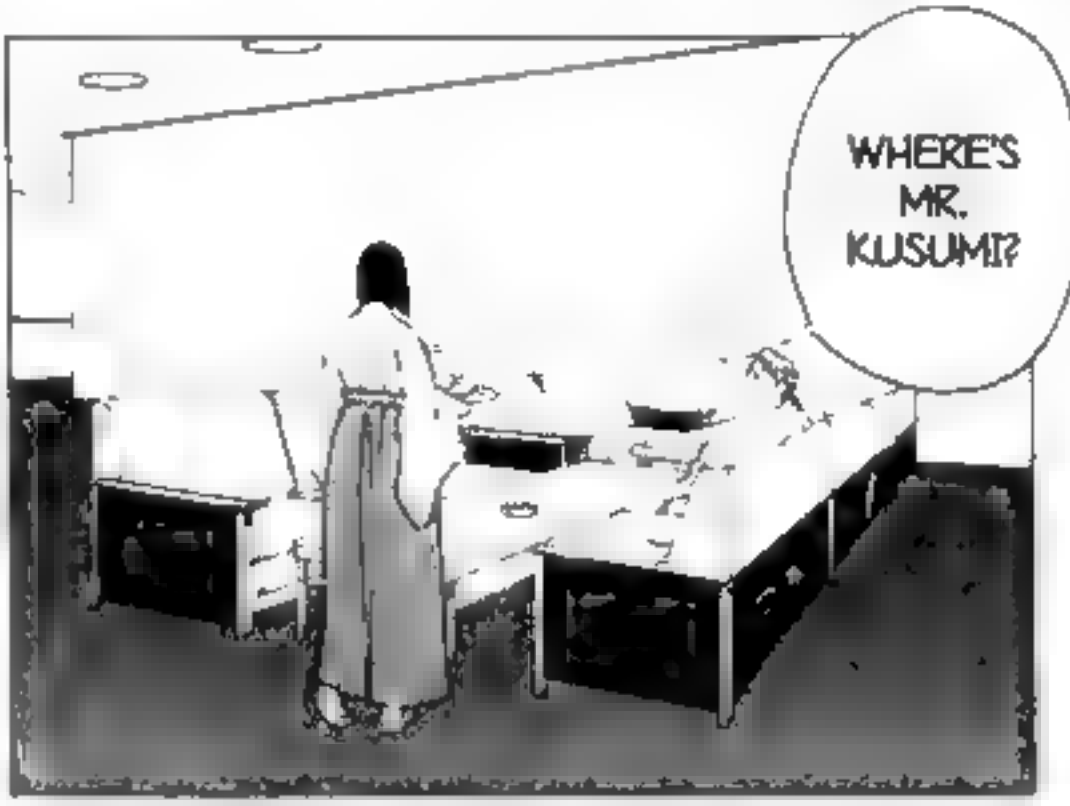
...SIR, LADY KIKUJI IS READY FOR THE ORACLE.

GOOD.

Chapter 2 –
The Age of Hikage 2



THE GURU IS CURRENTLY ON HIS WAY HERE FROM THE TEMPLE. HE WILL BE ARRIVING SOON.


WHERE'S MR. KUSUMI?

ALL TO GLORIFY ONE SICKLY LITTLE GIRL.

HE'S REALLY SOMETHIN', Y'KNOW?
CREATES THIS ENTIRE RELIGION FROM THE GROUND UP IN ONLY FOUR YEARS.

WHAT DO YOU *REALLY* WORSHIP IN YOUR INNER SANCTUM?

BUT THAT'S NOT ALL THE CHURCH OF MAGORAKA IS HIDING, IS IT?

MR. KATO, YOU SHOULD WATCH WHAT YOU SAY BEFORE SOMEONE DISPOSES OF YOU.

HMPH. I'LL DISPOSE OF MYSELF BEFORE THAT HAPPENS.

WHY DOES A DIET LEGISLATOR'S SECRETARY LIKE ME HAVE TO BABY-SIT SOME FORTUNE TELLING PRIESTESS?

THEN YOU WILL KNOW YOUR OWN FUTURE.

PERHAPS YOU SHOULD LAY WITH LADY KIKURI AS WELL.

BUT THEY ALL GO SOFT WHEN THEY GET IN BED WITH HER, DON'T THEY?
I'D FEEL LIKE AN IDIOT, PAYING ALL THAT MONEY TO NOT DO THE DEED.
.....

HUFF

HUFFI

HUFFI

HUFF

HUFF

YOU PEOPLE WANTED TO GAIN A FOOTHOLD IN JAPAN, DIDN'T YOU?!

YOU HAVE TO BE WILLING TO TAKE SOME RISKS!

YOU HID THE FACT THAT NIRASAWA WAS A MEMBER OF "K" FROM US.

YOU HAVE EXPOSED OUR OPERATION TO GREAT DANGER.

WE KNOW ALL ABOUT "K"AZUMA.

RIDICULOUS THERE IS NO SUCH ORGANIZATION AS "K."

THEY'RE ASKING FOR TWO THOUSAND EXTRA IN CONSOLATION.

WHAT DO YOU THINK, HAMAMURA?

I SUGGEST YOU PAY IT. YOU DON'T WANT TO MAKE ENEMIES OF THEM, SIR.

.....

VERY WELL, YOU WILL GET YOUR MONEY.

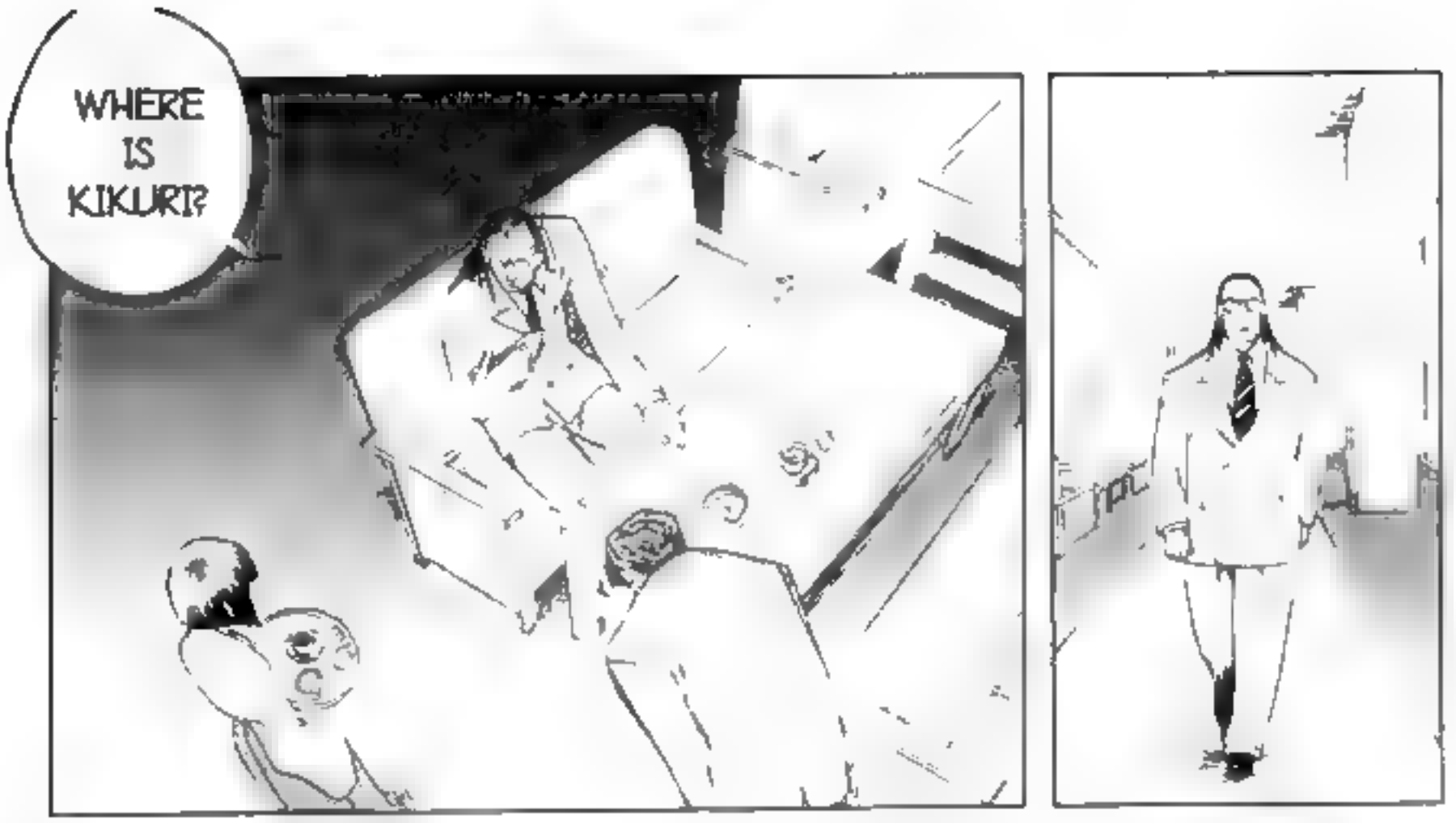
DON'T FORGET, WE WILL KILL *ANYONE* WITHIN THREE HOURS OF A DEAL.

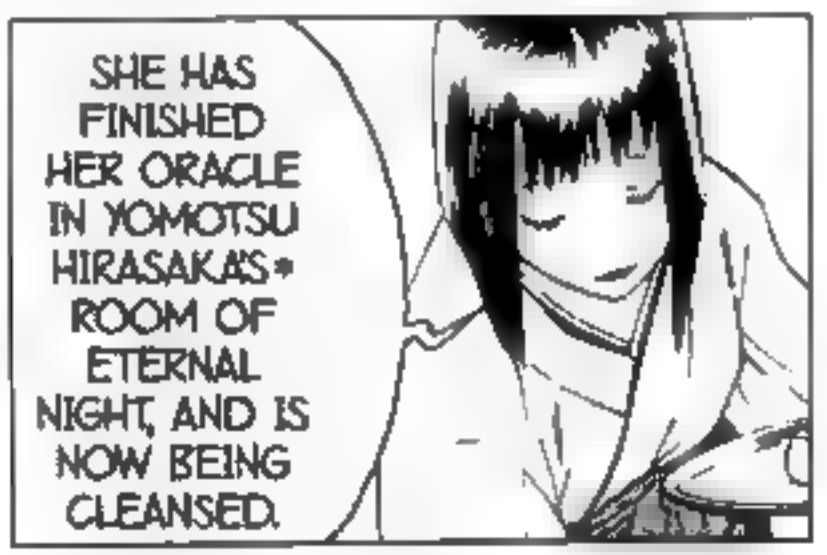
S-SIR, IF KAZUMA SHOULD FIND OUT ABOUT THIS-

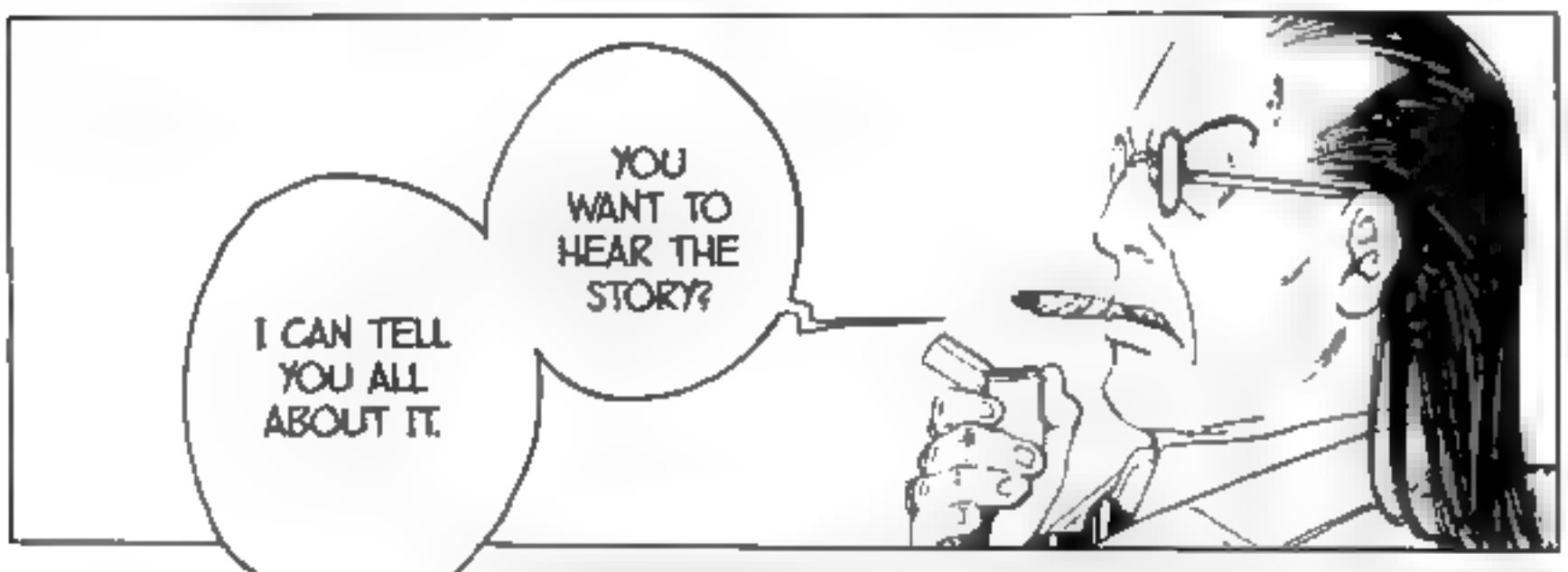
HMPH. WELL, THEY CAUGHT US.

NO MATTER. AFTER ALL, THEY CAN KILL ANYONE.

!







*NOTE: YOMOTSU HIRASAKA IS THE HILL THAT LEADS TO YOMOTSU (OR MORE COMMONLY YOMI: THE UNDERWORLD IN TRADITIONAL JAPANESE MYTHOLOGY. IN THIS CASE IT'S JUST THE NAME THEY HAVE ASSIGNED TO A PLACE IN THE MAGORAKA TEMPLE.

JUST LEAVE THAT ALL UP TO MY BOSS.

HE'LL MAKE SURE THE LAW WON'T MOVE IN ON YOU FOR ANYTHING SHORT OF, SAY, CHILD ABUSE.

OH NO, DON'T MIND ME. I'M JUST MAKING SMALL TALK.

MORE IMPORTANTLY, WE'RE NOT GOING TO HAVE ANY TROUBLE WITH THE POLICE, ARE WE?

BUT JUST TO BE SURE: HOW OLD IS LADY KIKURI, ANYWAY?

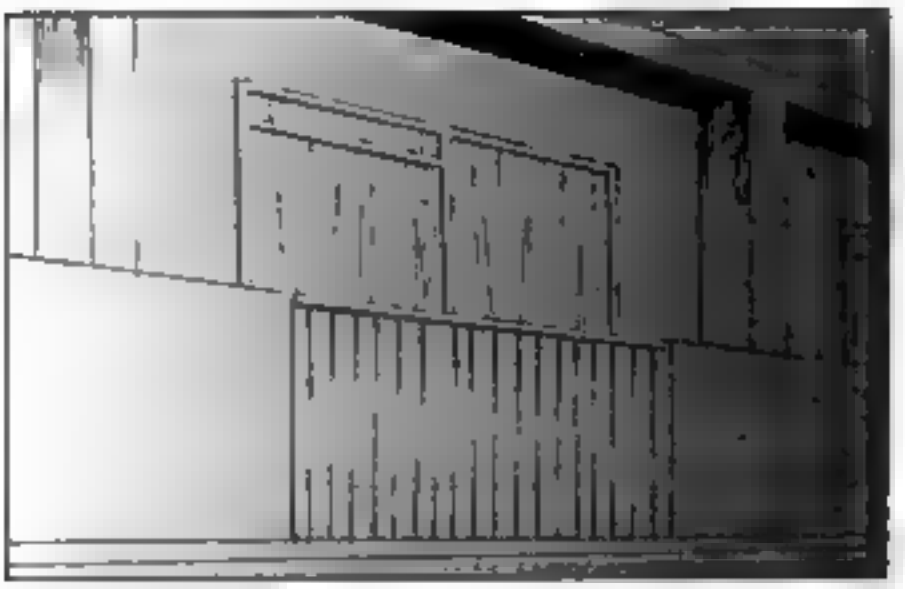
KIKURI IS MY WIFE. THERE IS NO NEED FOR CONCERN.

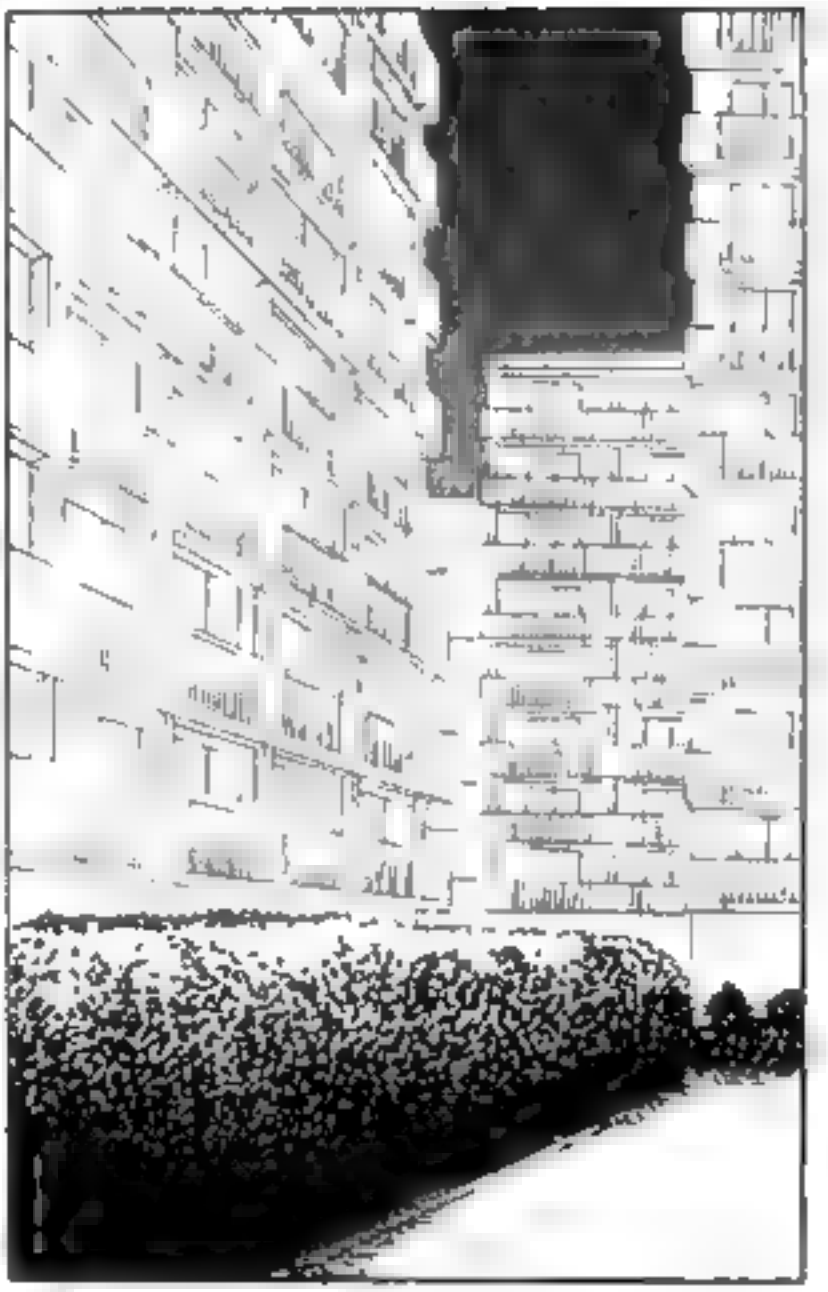
IT'S JUST MY DUTY TO LOOK AFTER YOUR WELL-BEING, YOU UNDERSTAND.

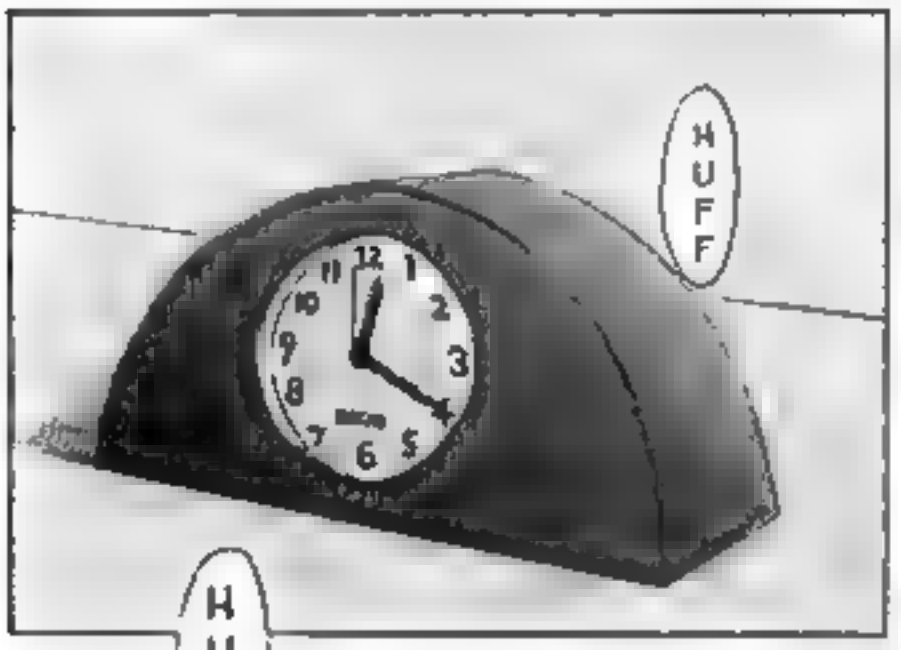
AH YES, OF COURSE. PARDON ME.

DAMN THEM ALL...

LIKE FLIES, FLOCKING TO HONEY.







WEDNESDAY

HUFF

HUFF

HUFF

HUFF

COME ON, YOU DON'T WANT TO WASTE AWAY IN HERE.

I'LL SPAR WITH YOU.

WHEW.

ARE YOU SURE? HIIRAGI SAID NOT TO LEAVE.

WE'RE JUST GOING DOWN THE BLOCK TO GET A BIT OF EXERCISE. SHE WON'T CARE.

UNG?!

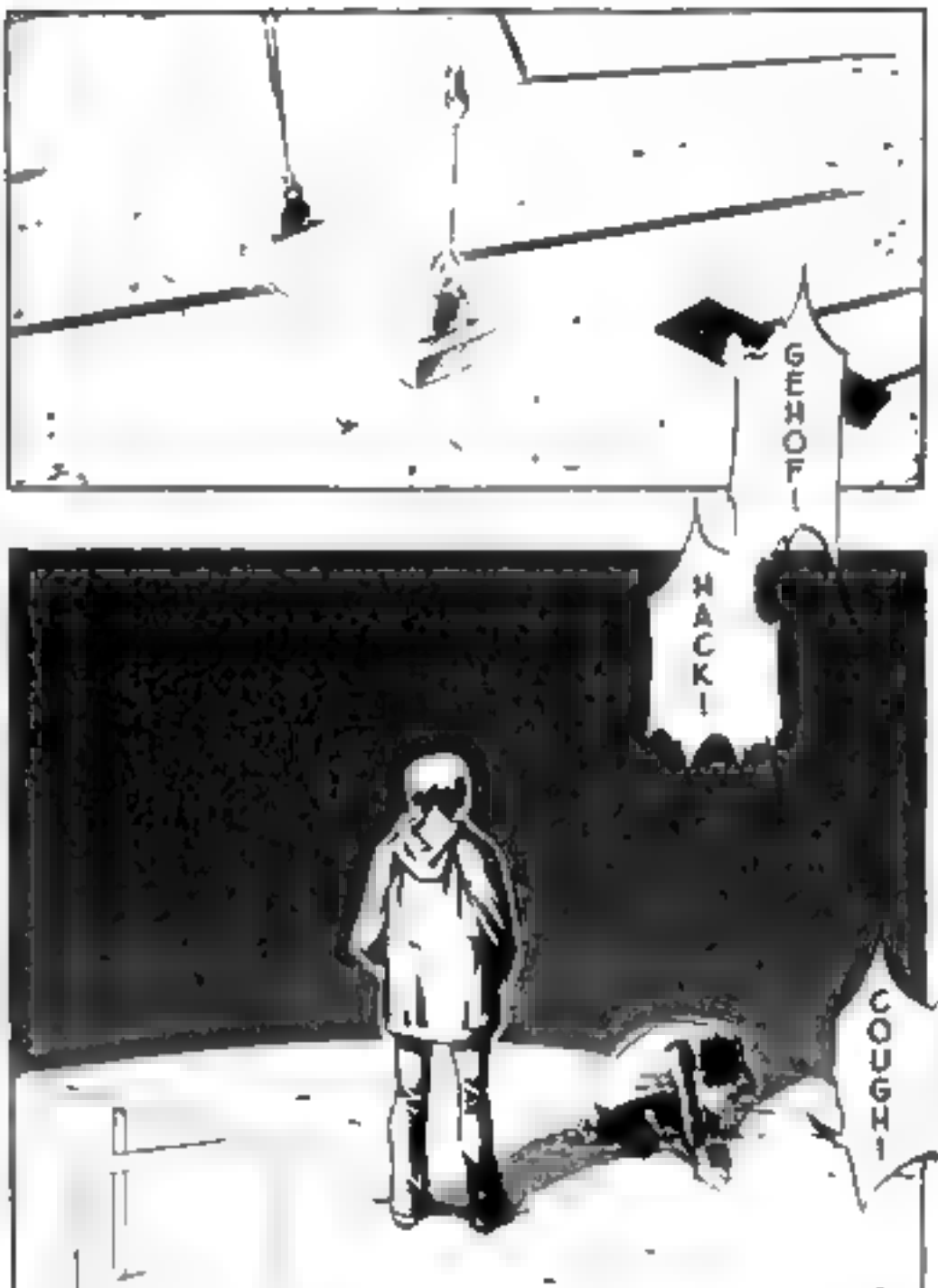
YOUR CENTER OF GRAVITY IS TOO HIGH. EVEN IF YOU'RE NOT USING YOUR LEGS MUCH, YOU SHOULD ALWAYS FOCUS ON THE LOWER HALF

WHATEVER YOU SAY!!

!!

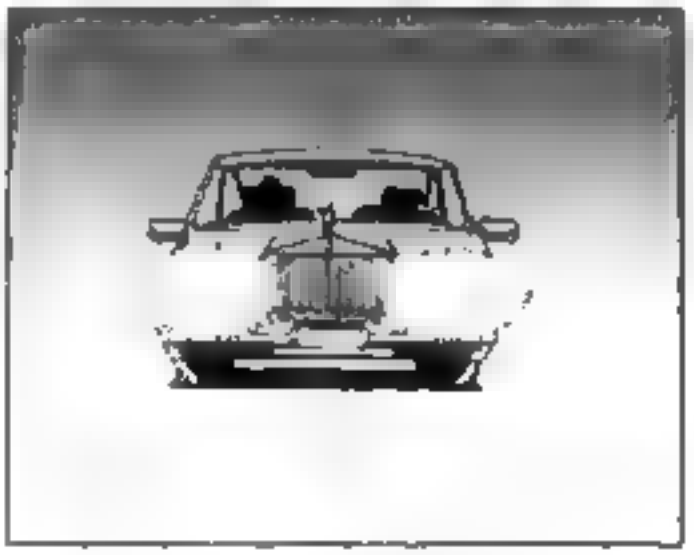
ARGH!

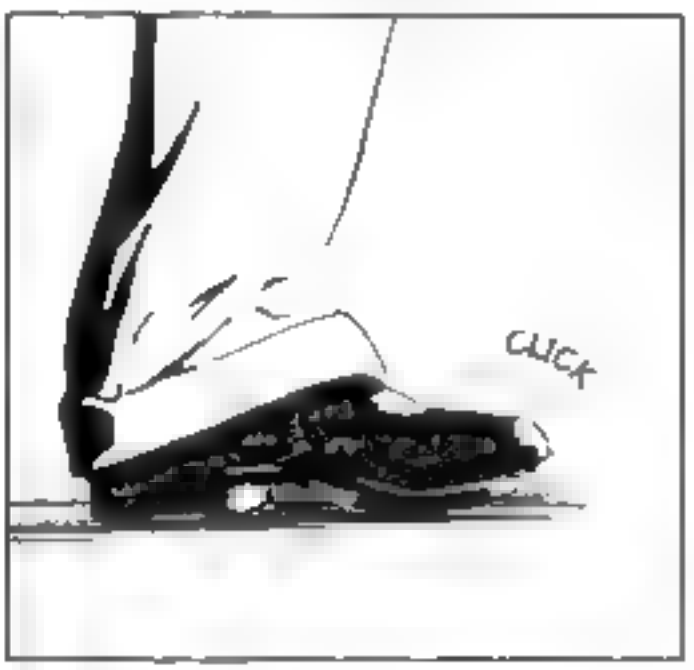
!!


GEHOH-
HACK!
COUGH!

.....?!

USE THAT.
AND COME AT ME LIKE YOU MEAN TO KILL ME, YUSUKE!




CLICK

YOU ARE TOO KIND, SIR.

BLASTED FREAK...

KUSUMI, THE BLOOD OF THE GIRL WHO CAME TO ME LAST NIGHT WAS DELECTABLE.

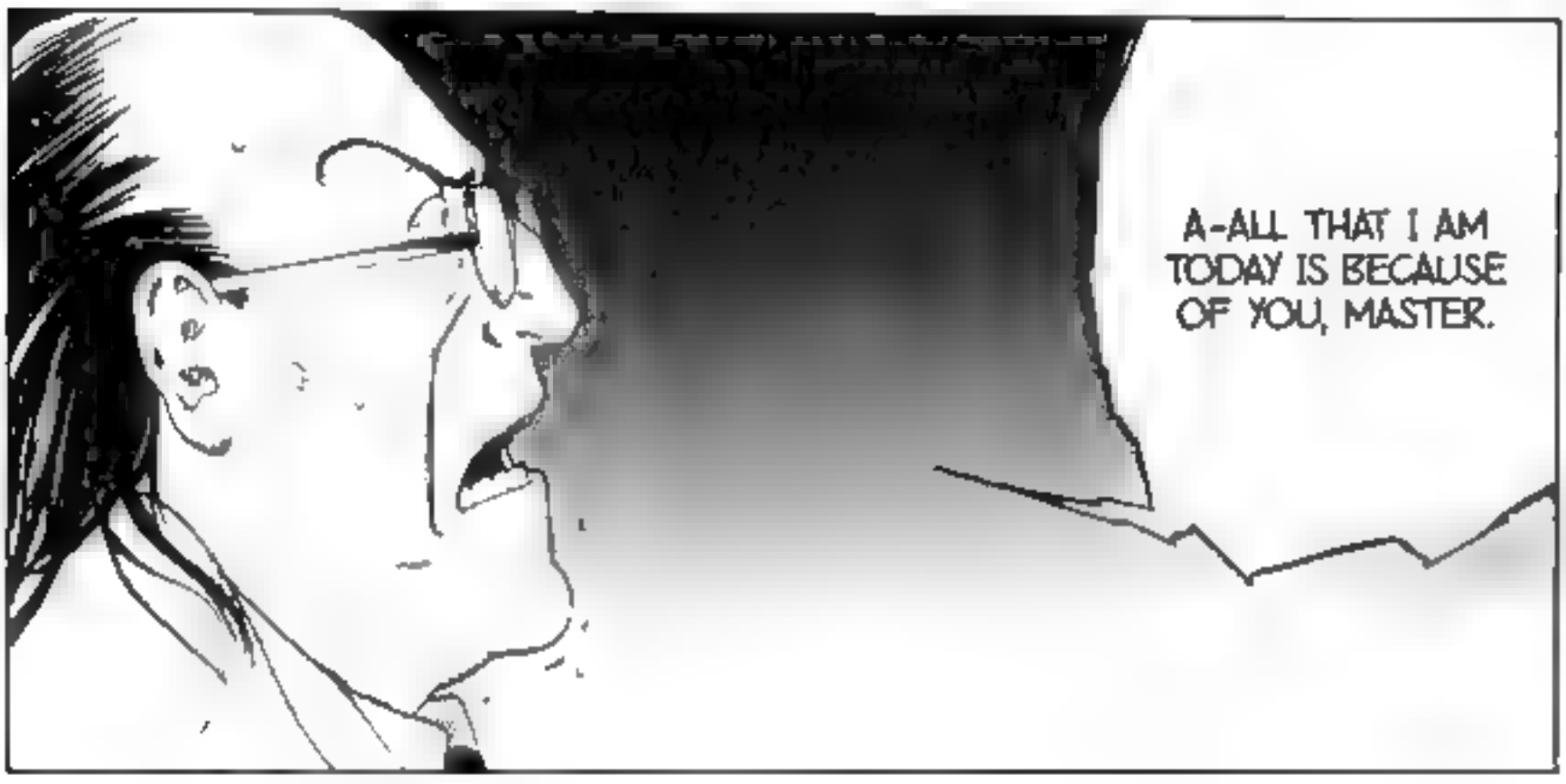
.....

AND HOW WAS NIRASAWA'S BLOOD, KUSUMI? NOW YOU CAN FOCUS ON RAISING FUNDS FOR THE CHURCH WITHOUT HAVING TO WORRY ABOUT HIM TAKING ANYTHING OFF THE TOP, RIGHT?

N- NOT YET, SIR...

HAVE YOU SEEN YOUR FUTURE IN PRINCESS KIKURI'S EMBRACE YET, KUSUMI?

HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN OUR AGREEMENT, IN YOUR *GREED*?
WAS THAT ALL YOUR FUTURE AMOUNTED TO?


A-ALL THAT I AM TODAY IS BECAUSE OF YOU, MASTER.

I HAVE DECIDED TO TAKE PRINCESS KIKURI FOR MYSELF. I WILL COME FOR HER TOMORROW NIGHT.

YOU CAN RELEGATE HER TASKS TO ONE OF YOUR OTHER GIRLS.

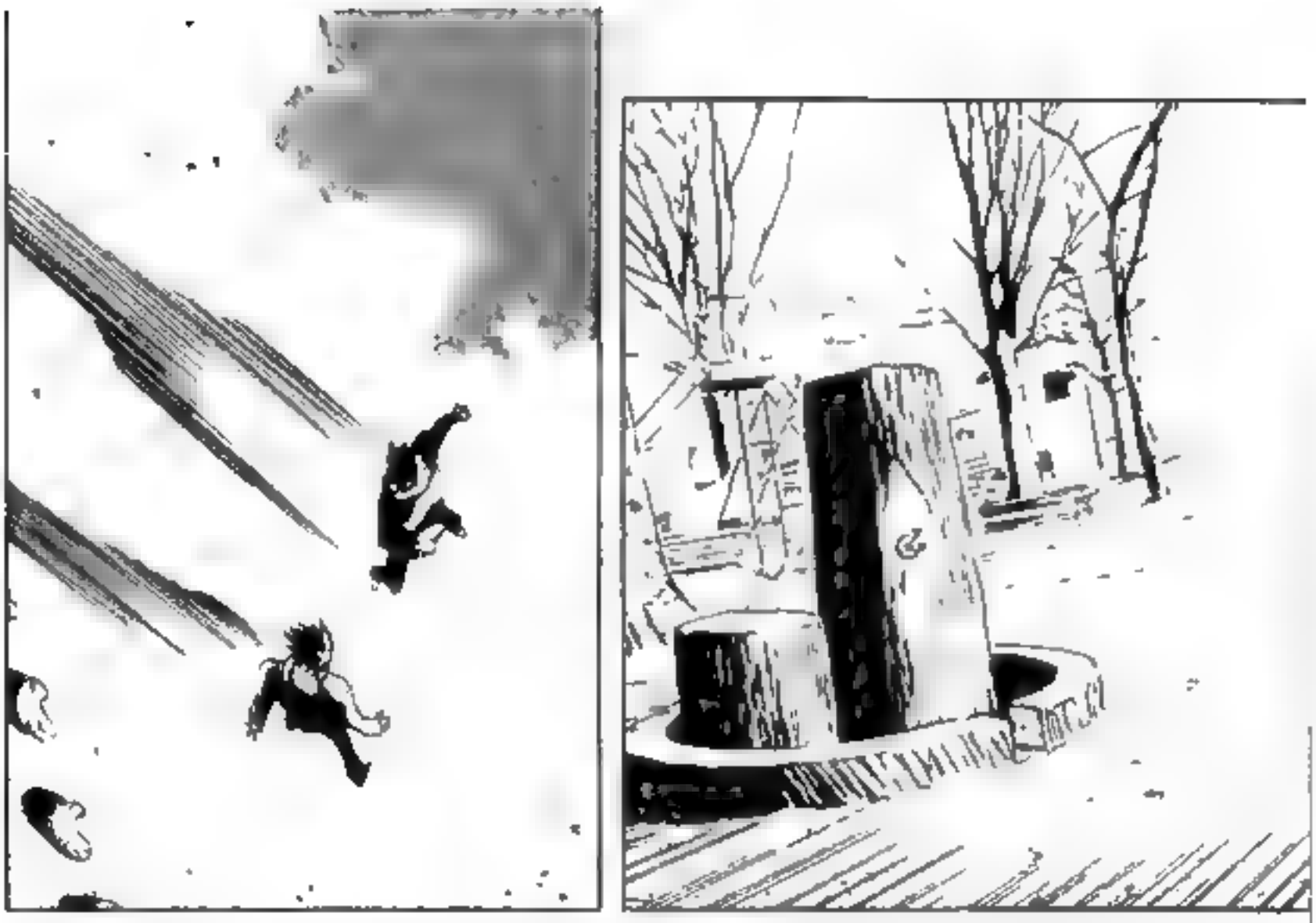
PLEASE, DON'T DO THIS! IF IT'S GIRLS YOU WANT, I WILL GIVE YOU A *HUNDRED!*

JUST LEAVE KIKURI OUT OF THIS!

N- NO, MASTER KAZUMA! ANYTHING BUT THAT!

EEEK!

KUSUMI, THINK BACK ON THE EVENTS OF THE DAY FOUR YEARS AGO, WHEN KIKURI CLOSED HER HEART TO US ALL.



YAAAH!!
HNG...

YAHH!!

THE INSTANT HE TOUCHED THE WEAPON, THE SPACE BETWEEN US GREW LONGER THAN THE BLADE.

!!

*NOTE: HIIRAGI AND HIKAGE ARE SPEAKING IN CHINESE HERE, WITH THE TRANSLATION IN PARENTHESES.

(THAT'S ENOUGH!)

YUSUKE...

(WE'RE JUST GETTING SOME EXERCISE.)

(I LEFT YOU WITH HIM PRECISELY SO THIS WOULDN'T HAPPEN. WHAT'S GOING ON?)

.....

.....

(HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN? THIS ISN'T OUR COUNTRY.)

(YES, IT IS OUR COUNTRY.)

WHEN THE TIME COMES, WE'LL JUST KILL THIS "K" GUY OURSELVES.

(ARE YOU THAT AFRAID OF "K"?)

(WHAT... WHERE DID YOU HEAR THAT-)

(I'M NOT A KID ANYMORE, SO STOP TREATING ME LIKE ONE, BIG SISTER!)

.....

Chapter 2 –
The Age of Hikage 3

WITHOUT KIKURI, THE CHURCH OF MAGORAKA IS *FINISHED!*

OH, TAMAYO, TAMAYO, WHAT AM I TO DO?!

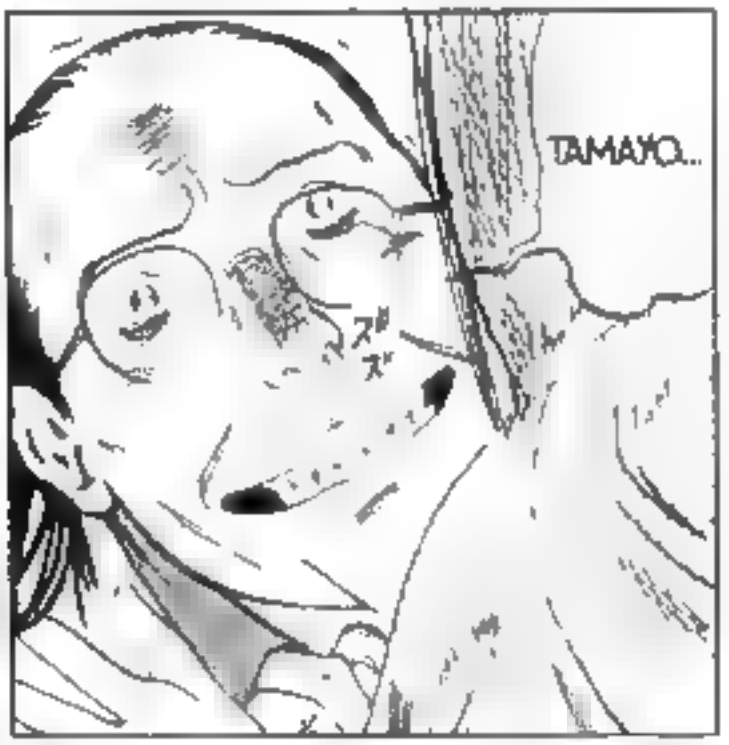
T-T-T-TAMAYO!

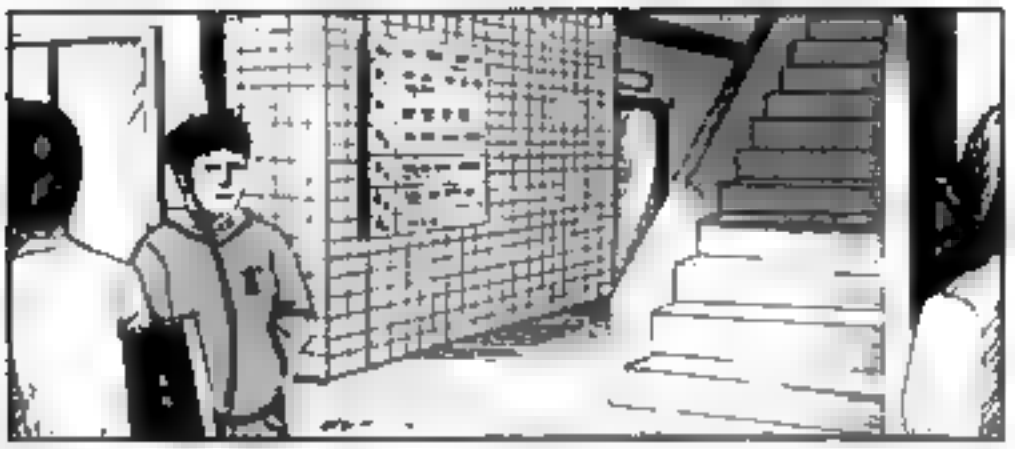
JUST LIKE THAT GREEDY MR. NIRASAWA.

THEN ALL YOU NEED DO IS KILL HIM.

THE TIME FOR ACTION HAS COME, GURU. YOU CANNOT HOPE TO MAINTAIN YOUR AUTHORITY BY LIVING IN FEAR OF THAT MONSTER.

LET US KILL KAZUMA.





BURAIKAN
5F
DAIGO
4F
CHURCH OF MAGORAKA
3F
BOOKSTORE
2F
NEW

THE TIME FOR CLEANSING HAS COME

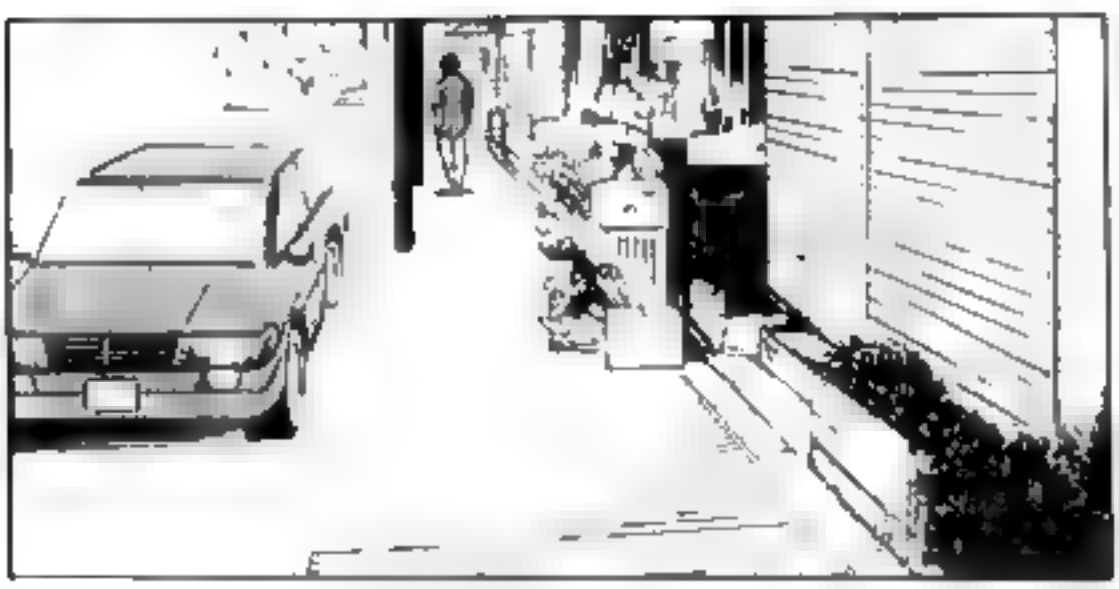
……

谷2号店

安さ抜群

紙のタイワ

カラオケ



PEEK

WHAT, DOES HE THINK WE'RE PLAYING SPIES NOW?

THERE'S GOING TO BE AN EMERGENCY MEETING THIS AFTERNOON, WITH THE GURU IN ATTENDANCE.

ONE OF THE STAFF WAS SAYING IT'S A CALL TO ACTION IN THE FACE OF IMMINENT DANGER.

VRRRR...

YOU LIKE MUSIC, DON'T YOU TAMURA?

BUY YOURSELF A CD.

THEY'LL PROBABLY ROUND ME UP TO HELP WITH THE BOOK SALES.

ARE YOU GONNA BE THERE?

THANKS, MR. YAEGASHI!

THERE'S A STATION ON THE MARUNOUCHI LINE UP AHEAD TO THE LEFT.

?

SORRY KID, YOU OUGHT TO GET OFF HERE.

AGENT YAEGASHI,

FORGIVE ME IF I FIND LITTLE *LAUDABLE* ABOUT A PUBLIC SERVANT SETTING SNARES FOR A PEACEFUL, LAW-ABIDING NEW RELIGIOUS GROUP

SUCK

IT IS A WASTE OF T-TAXPAYER FUNDS, AND PEOPLE WOULD BE INCENSED IF THEY HEARD ABOUT IT.

AND WE'VE GOT RELIABLE INFORMATION THAT SEVERAL YOUNG WOMEN INVOLVED WITH THE GROUP HAVE GONE MISSING.
IF I MAY BE FRANK, SUPERINTENDENT NAKAJIMA, I CAN'T CONSIDER ANY RELIGION THAT WORSHIPS AN UNDERAGE GIRL AND TAKES ADVANTAGE OF THE UNSOUND NATURE OF ITS MEMBERS TO BE "PEACEFUL."

SO YOU WANT ME TO BACK OFF?

I'M SURE YOU UNDERSTAND THAT YOUR DILIGENCE TOWARD YOUR WORK IS HIGHLY REGARDED.

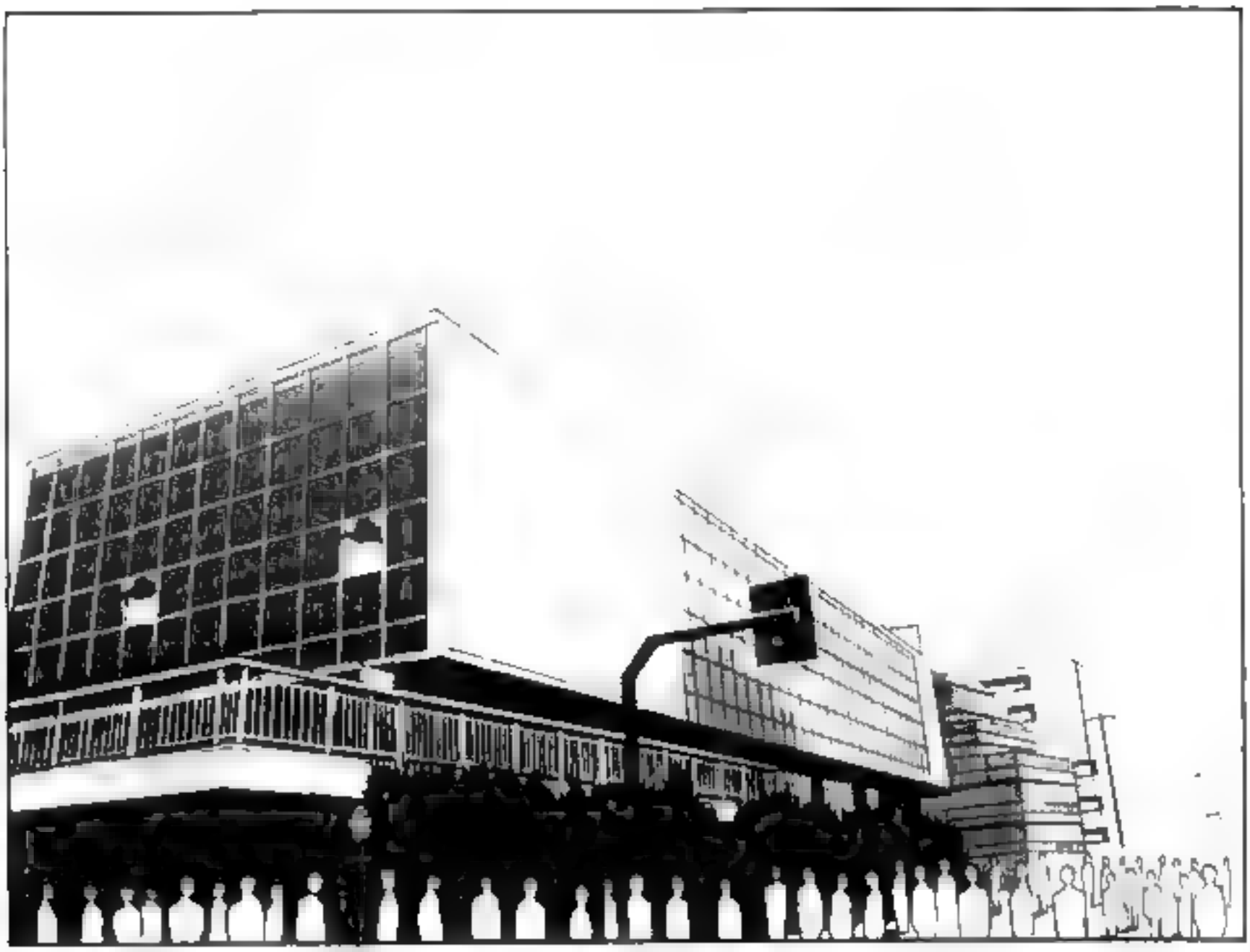
CHILD ABDUCTION IS NOT UNDER OUR JURISDICTION.

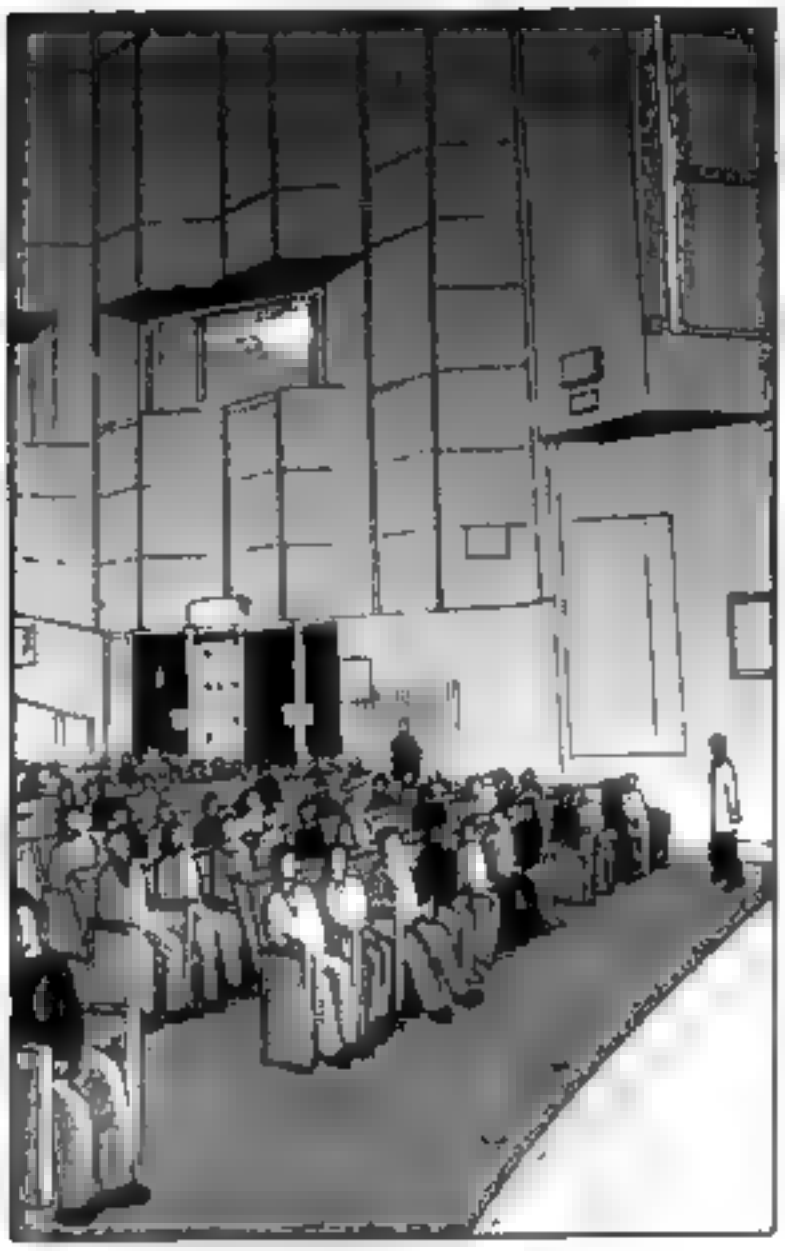
STARTING NEXT MONDAY, YOU WILL BE TRANSFERRED TO SECTION THREE, WHERE YOU CAN SPEND SOME QUALITY TIME HUNTING DOWN BURGLARS.

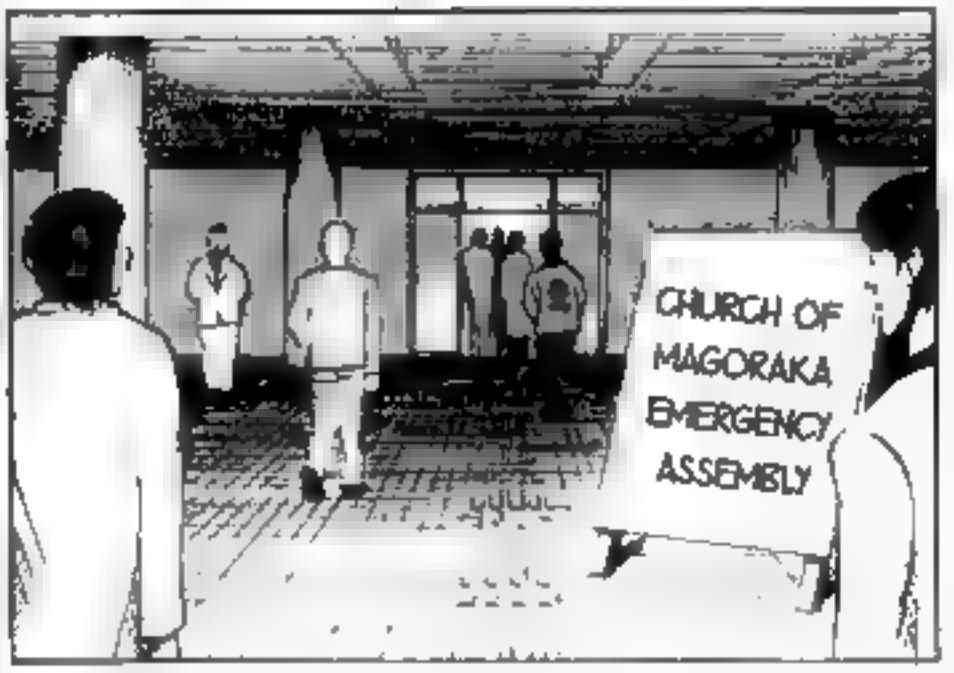
CRACKING DOWN ON SMALLER CRIMES IS S-STILL AN IMPORTANT TASK TO YOUR COUNTRY.

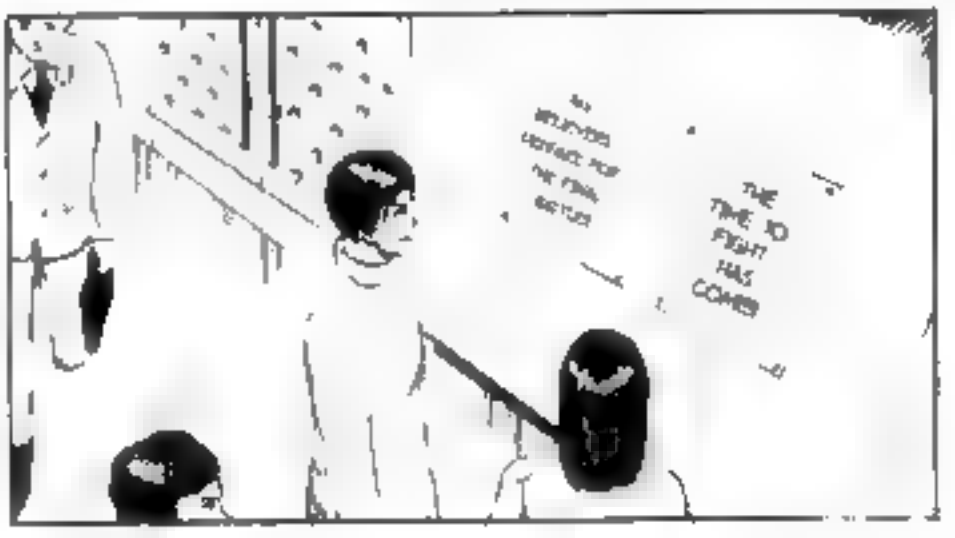
.....

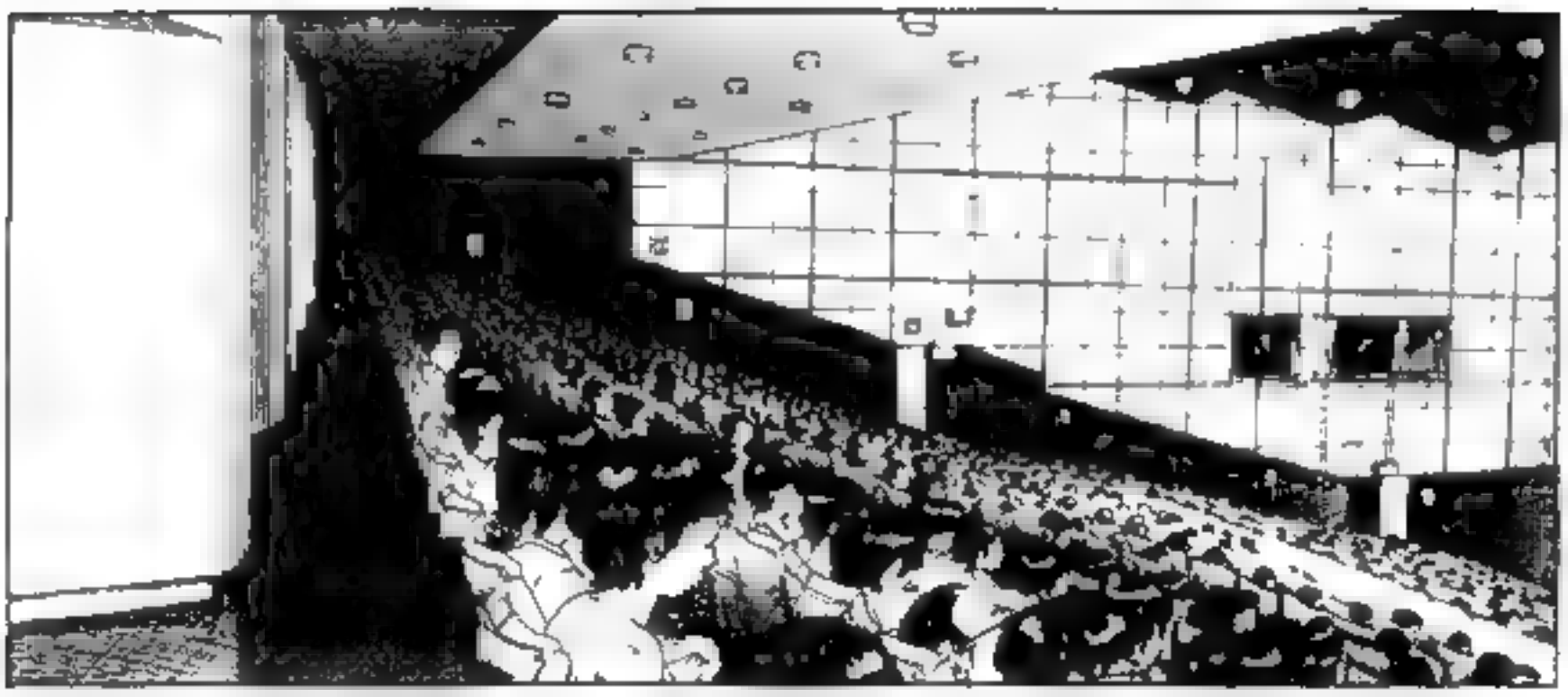
BRRRRM
I GUESS THAT GIVES ME THE REST OF THE WEEK TO PULL OFF ONE HELL OF A BUST.
NEXT MONDAY, WAS IT..?
SMIRK






CHURCH OF
MAGORAKA
EMERGENCY
ASSEMBLY





!!

.....

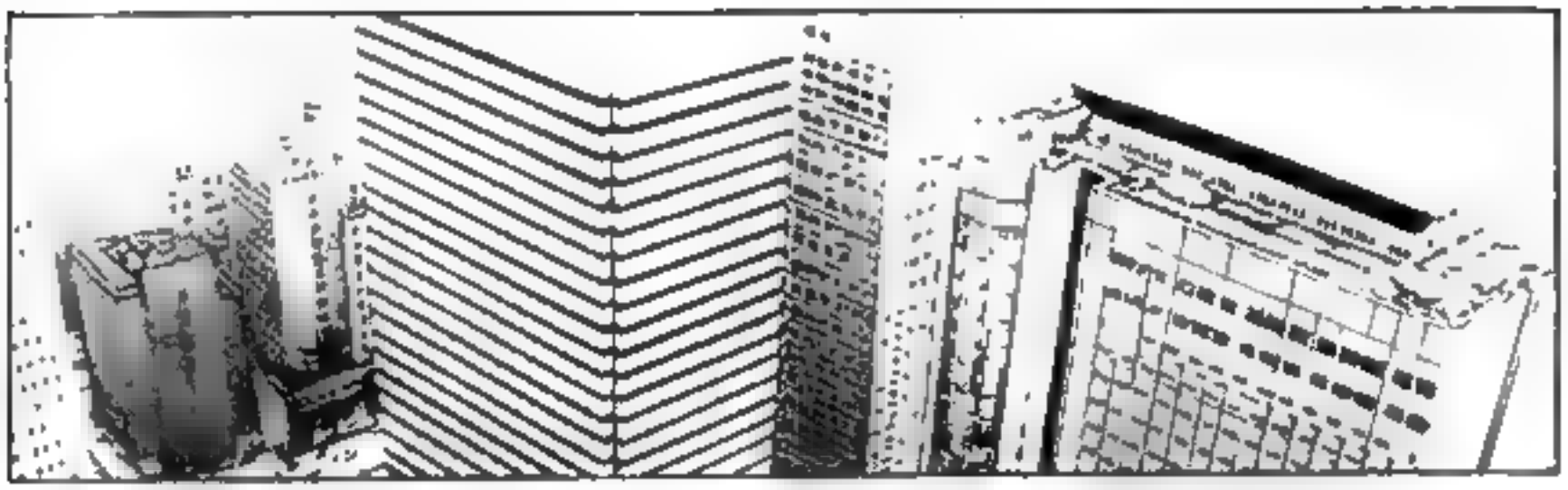
..THAT'S RIGHT FOLKS, IT'S AN INCREDIBLE UPSET!!

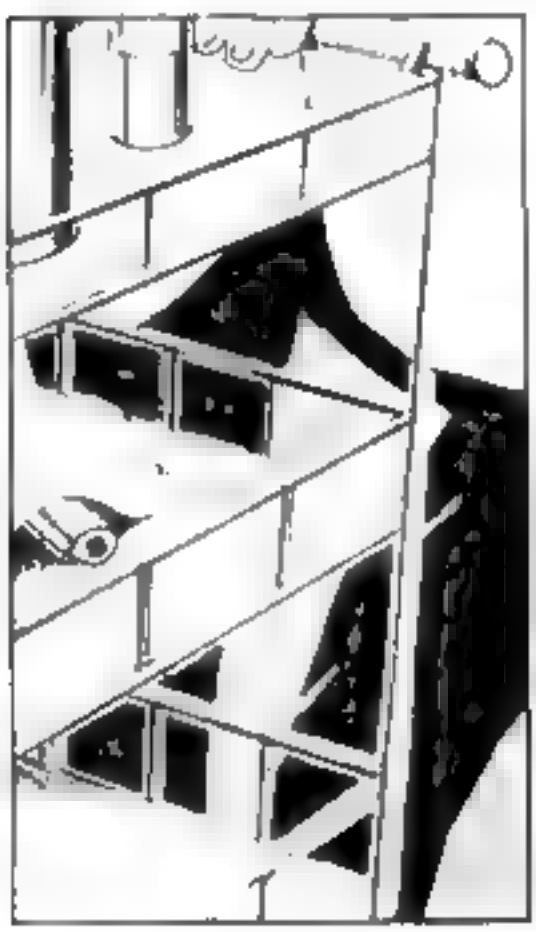
WHAT AM I DOING? I'M ALREADY FACING THE POSSIBILITY OF UNEMPLOYMENT NEXT WEEK...

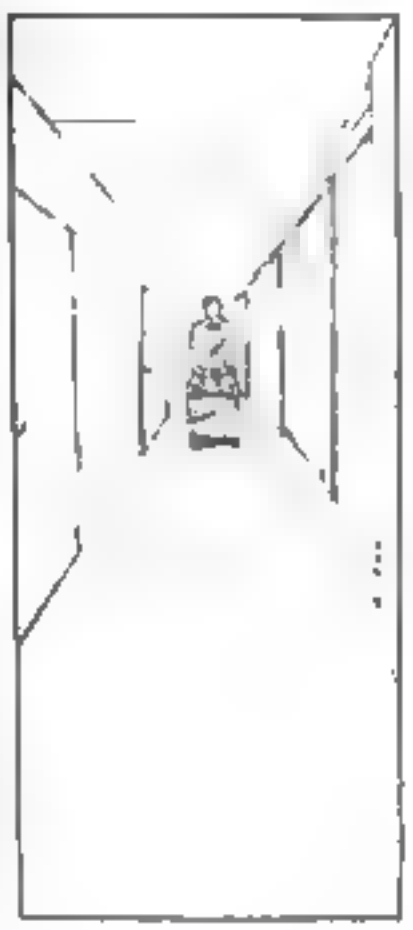
CHURCH OF MAGORAKA EMERGENCY ASSEMBLY!

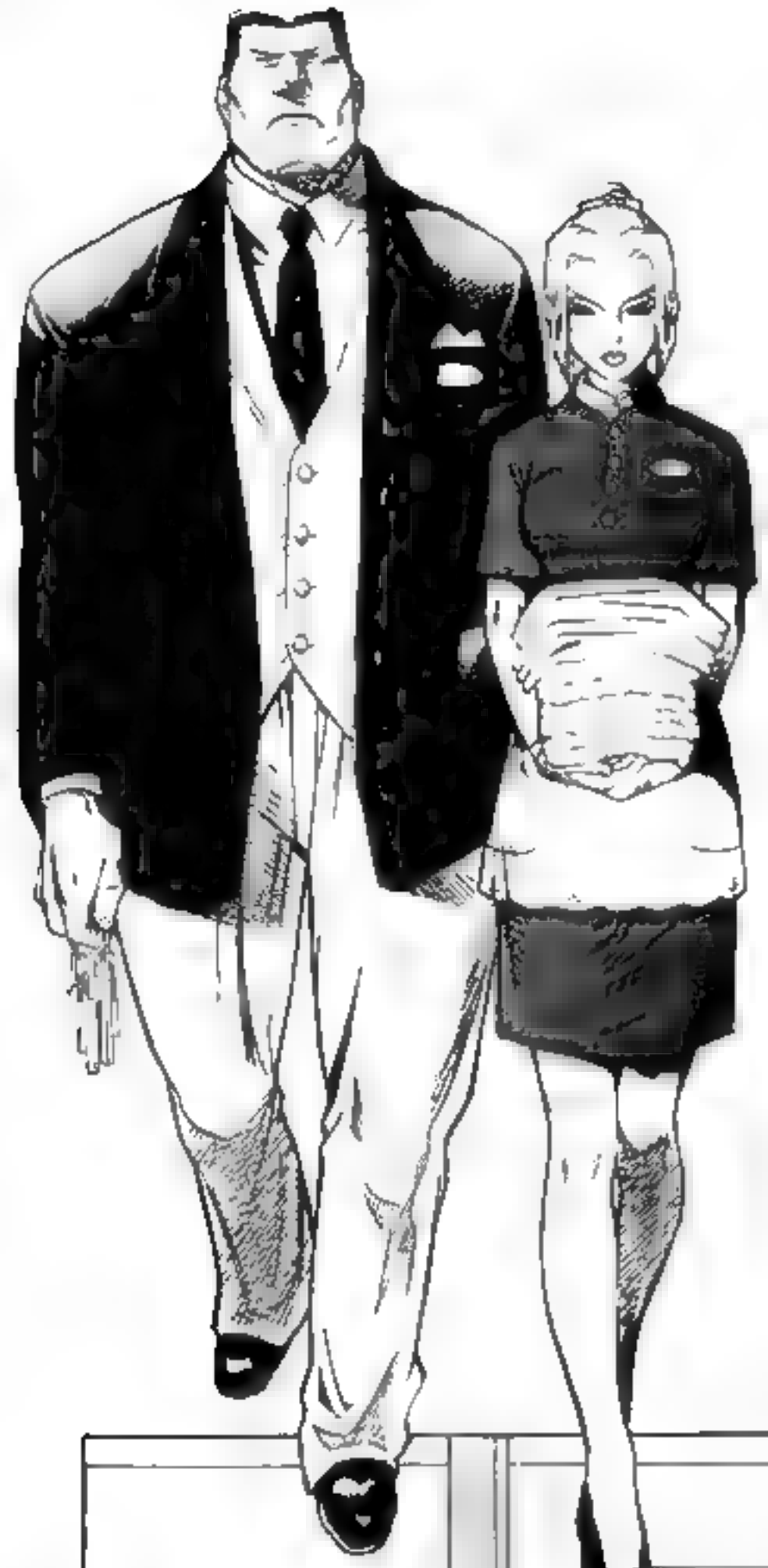
I'M AFRAID THIS EXTREME COURSE OF ACTION MAY DRAW IRE FROM OUR MEMBERS...
THE WU ASSASSINS WILL NOT FAIL US.
MR. KUSUMI, I DON'T SEE THE NEED FOR SUCH A GRANDIOSE MEETING.

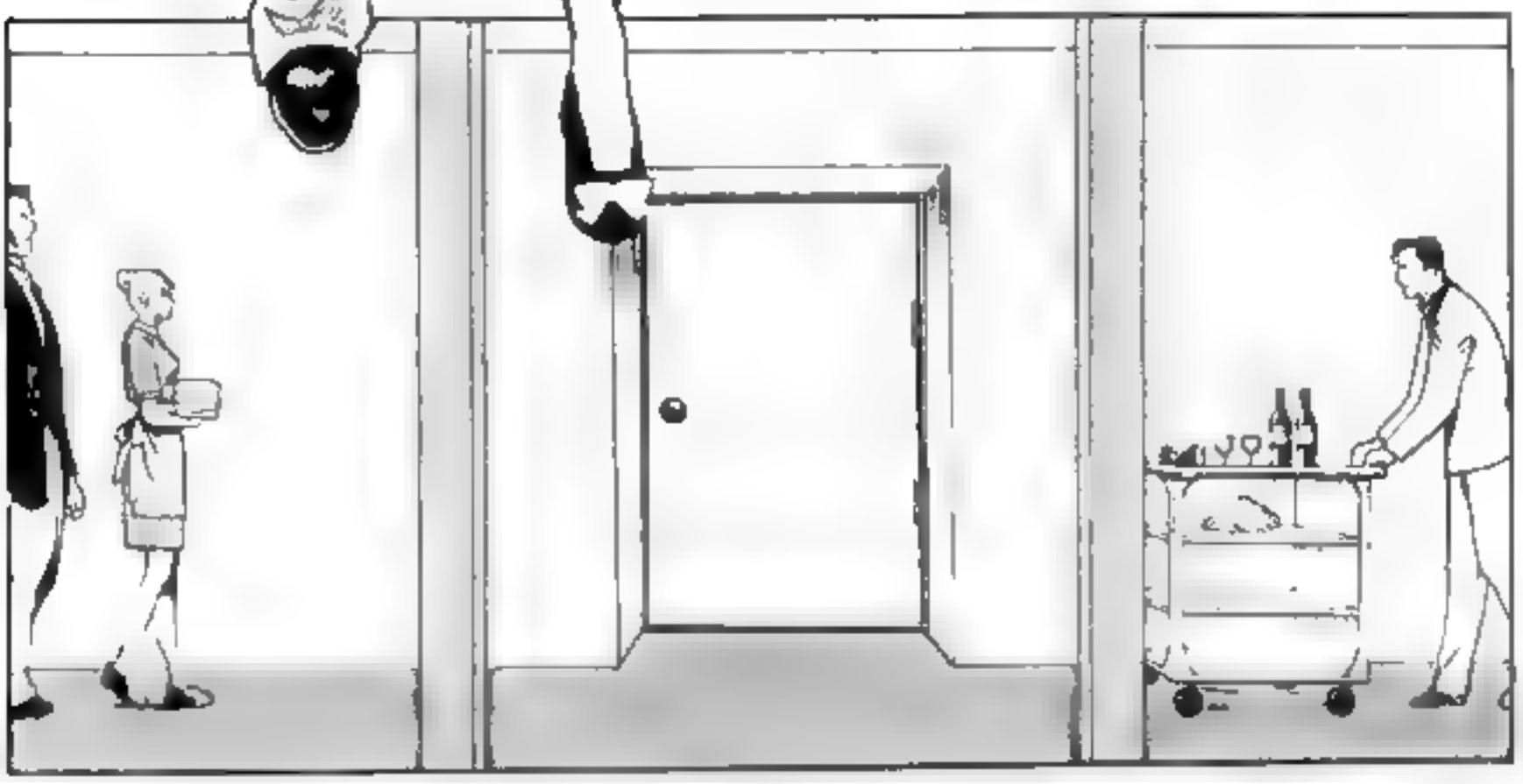
...NEITHER YOU NOR TAMAYO UNDERSTAND A THING.
YOU DON'T KNOW THE HALF OF KAZUMA'S TERROR.











C
SHE:

CLICK

BANG

DID YOU THINK I WOULD BE SLEEPING IN MY COFFIN DURING THE DAY?
?!!

NOT YET!

WE'VE FAILED! RETREAT!

DAMN!

GAGAGA

AA-
AAAAHHHH!!

GA GA GA

GA GA GA

GA GA GA GA

TING

TING

TING

DIE!!

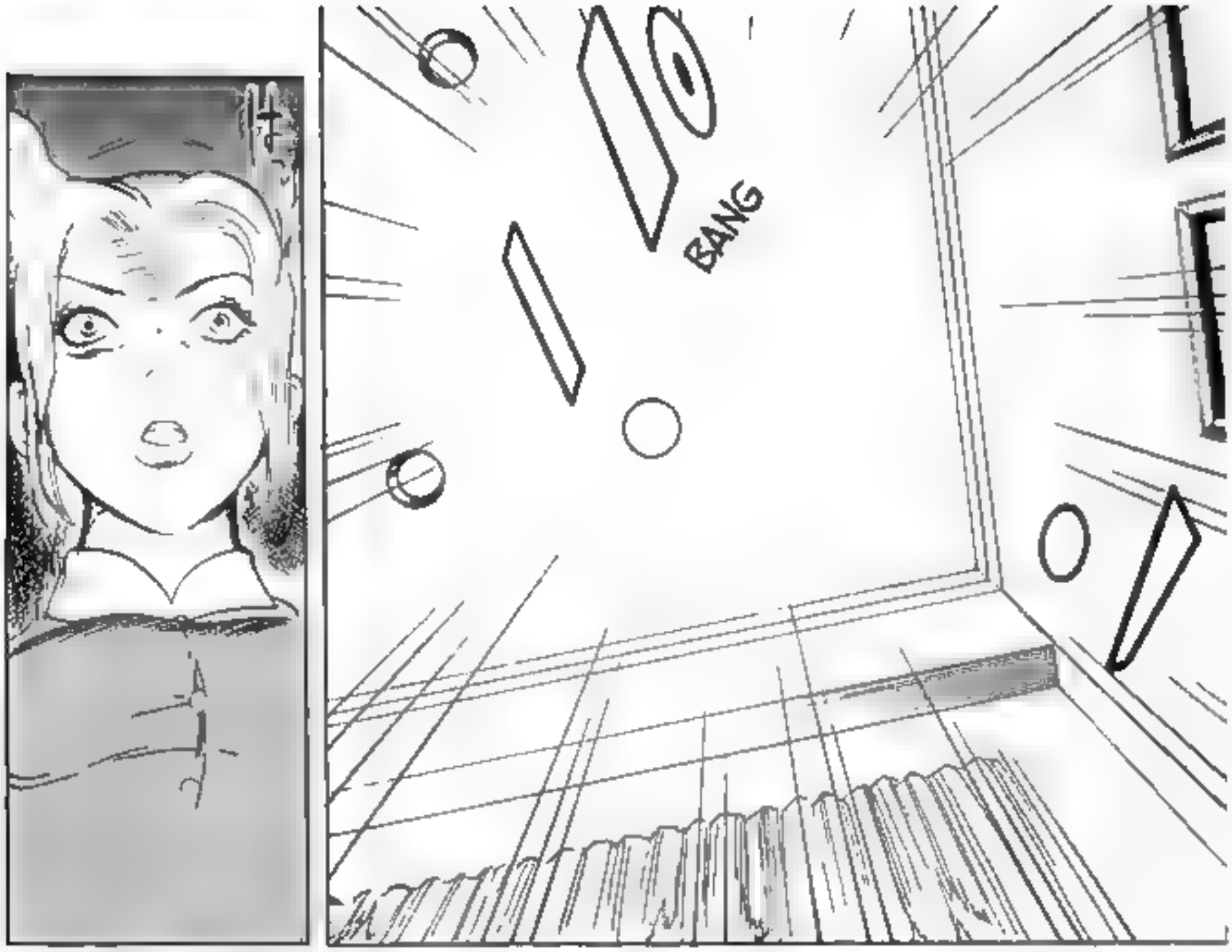
SHMM

!!

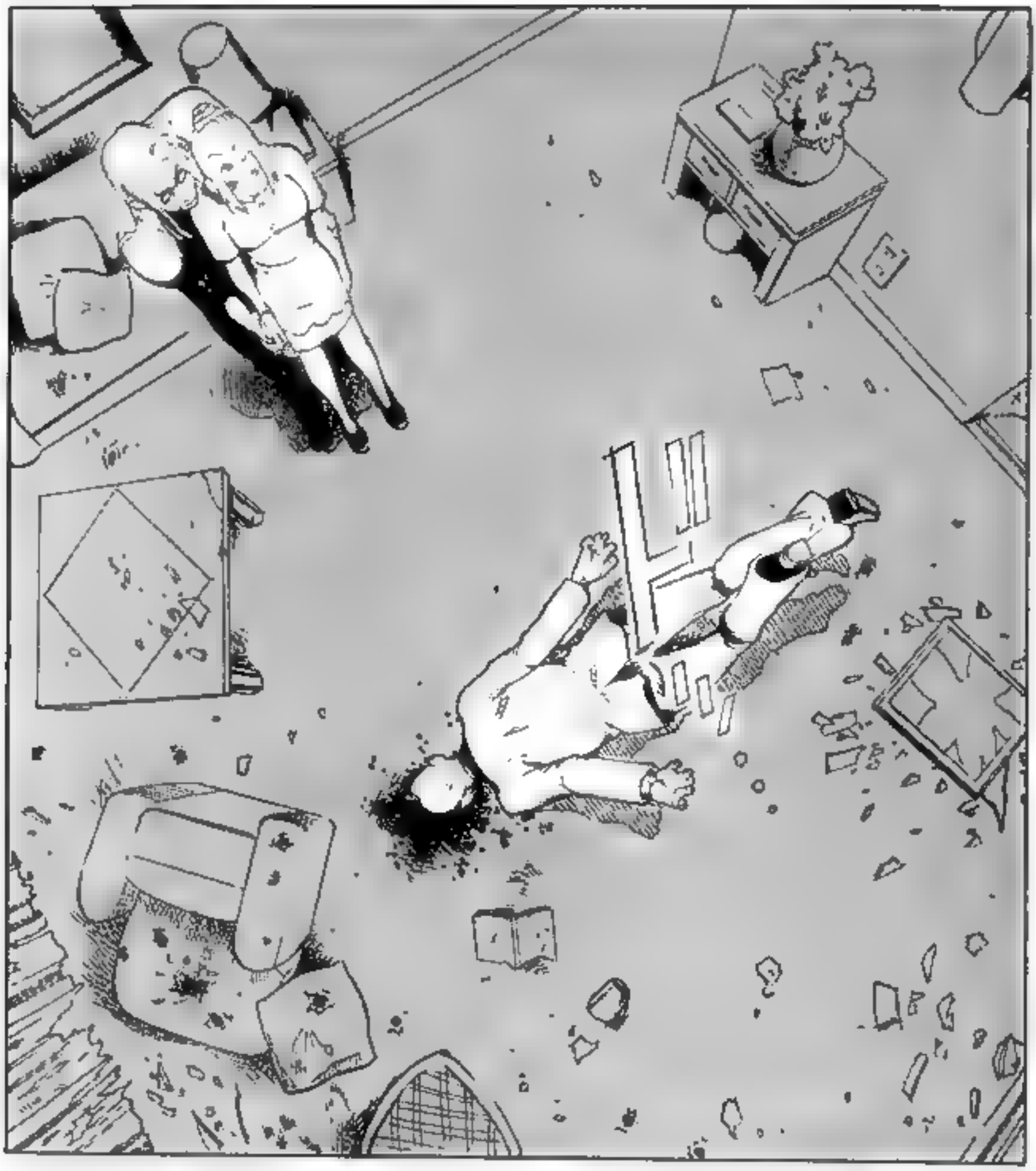
HAAA

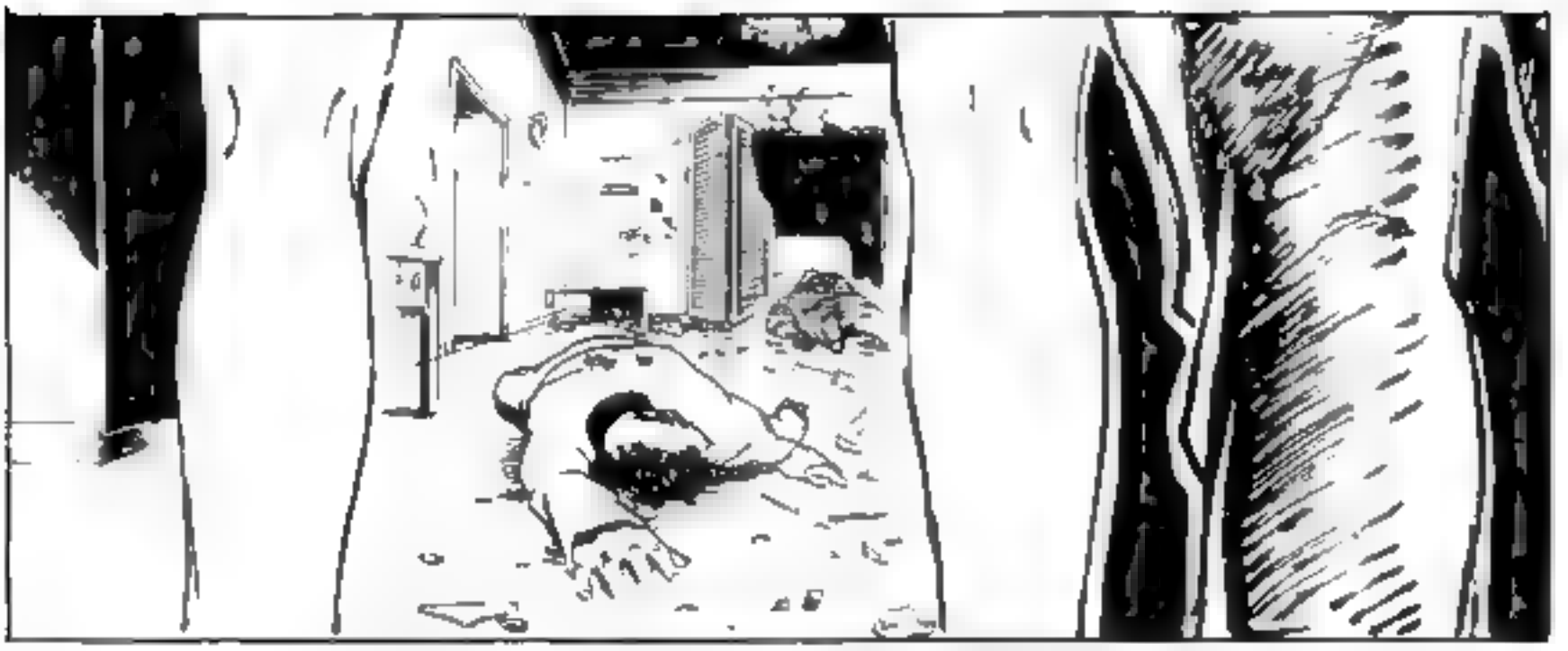
AAA-
AAAHHH!!
!!

....
Hhhh...


BANG

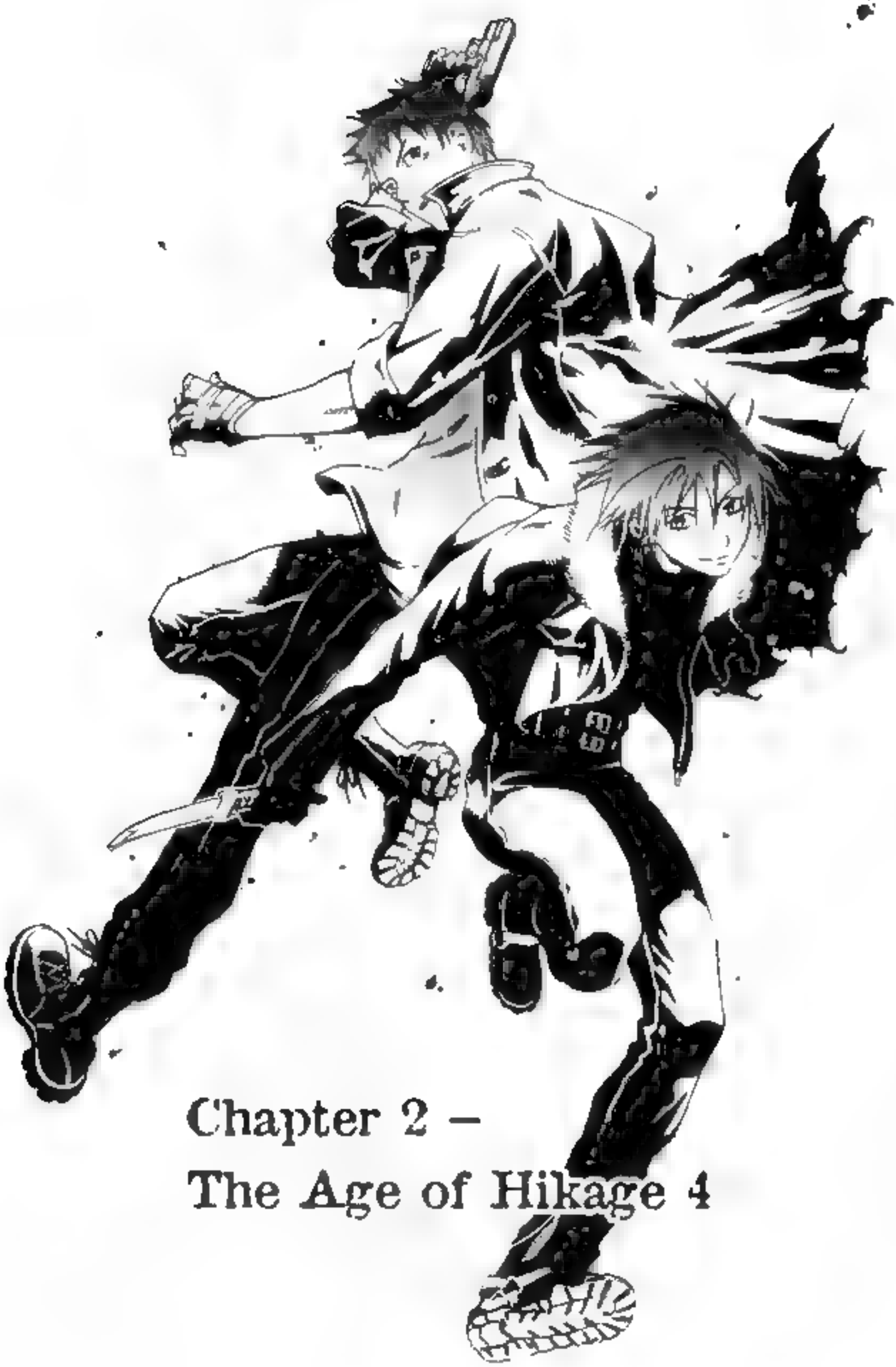
DRIP
WOBBLE





IS THIS THE BEST WU YING BI'S ASSASSINS CAN DO?

HE'S A DEMON...



Chapter 2 –
The Age of Hikage 4

WE HAVE MUSTERED OUR STRENGTH PRECISELY FOR THIS MOMENT!

CHURCH OF ORAKA THE END

YOU MUST RELEASE ALL OF YOUR INNER ENERGIES AND COMBAT THIS ORIGIN OF EVIL WHERE IT STANDS!

CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP

WE MUST *FIGHT* TO CREATE OUR OWN FUTURE!

FIGHT! BY OUR SIDE!

YOU IDIOT! WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!

G-GURU!

OHHH, GIVE THAT TO ME!!

K-

KA-

K-

K-

!!

IT'S ME. I'LL BE COMING TO GET KIKURI TONIGHT, AS PROMISED.

WHO IS IT?!

BEEP
FORGIVE HIROOHJI'S ROUGH TREATMENT, IF YOU WOULD BE SO KIND.

I HAVEN'T SLEPT IN OVER TEN YEARS.

IT'S TRUE THAT I AM WEAK TO SUNLIGHT, BUT THAT'S NOT THE POINT.

ALL I HAVE TO DO IS REGENERATE MY SKIN FASTER THAN IT CAN BURN.

...

THERE ARE NO SPECIAL *BEINGS* IN THIS WORLD.

ONLY SPECIAL *ABILITIES.*

HAMAMURA... YOU HANDLE THE REST.

THE CHURCH HAS A REQUEST TO MAKE OF ALL OF YOU.

WE ARE CURRENTLY UNDER PRESSURE FROM HERETICS AND HATE-MONGERS WHO SEEK TO TAKE LADY KIKURI FROM US.

WE MUST FIGHT TO THE DEATH TO PROTECT HER.

ANY TRUE BELIEVERS WITH MILITARY OR MARTIAL ARTS EXPERIENCE WHO ARE AVAILABLE TO STAY AT THE TEMPLE IMMEDIATELY-

WE NEED YOU FOR LADY KIKURI'S BODYGUARD SQUAD!

AS IT HAPPENS, I TOOK SOME JUDO AND KENDO AT THE ACADEMY.

……

ﾌｧｧｧ…

HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN OUR AGREEMENT?

.....

BZZZT

BZZZT

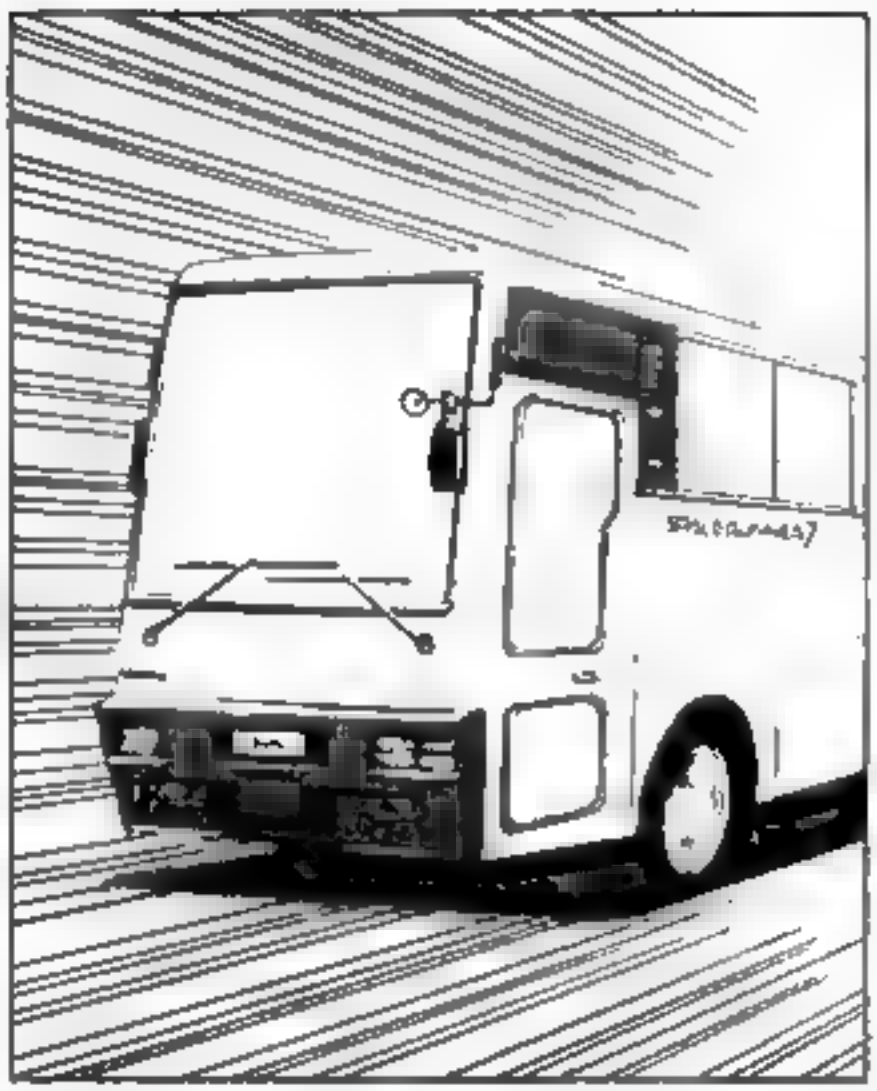
BZZZT

BZZZT

BZZZT

BZZZZT
BZZZZT
BZZZZT
BZZZZT

SCHNORRER



NO! NO PESSIMISM! WE'RE THE ONLY ONES WHO CAN KEEP HER SAFE!

WHY, I WOULD GLADLY GIVE MY LIFE IN SERVICE TO LADY KIKURI...

ONLY NINE...
CAN WE POSSIBLY PROTECT LADY KIKURI WITH THIS FEW?

MR. YAEGASHI, IS IT?

ZZZ-NG?

NOBODY KNOWS ABOUT THAT EXCEPT FOR THE HEAD OF MY BRANCH, AND THE GURU HIMSELF.

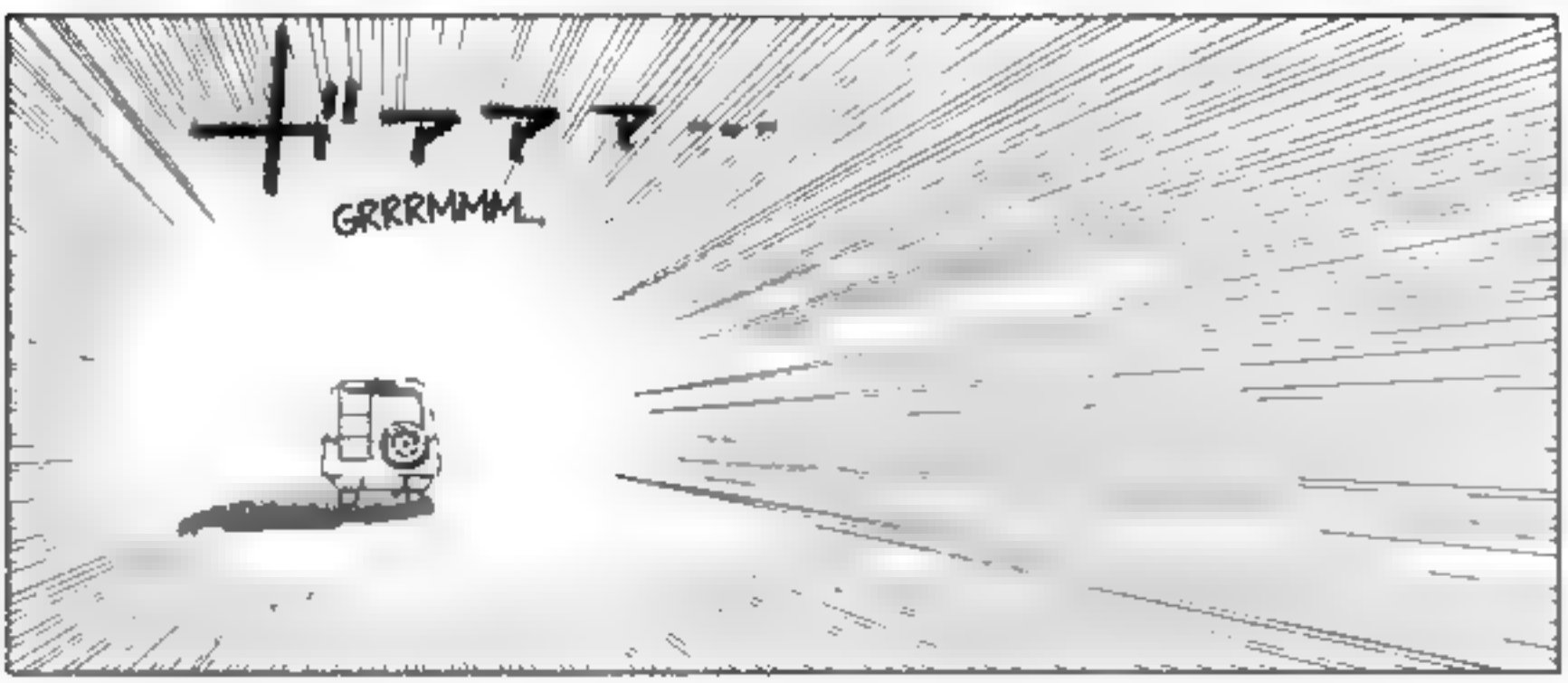
.....

I'M SADAO KUSAKARI, FROM THE CHURCH OF MAGORAKA'S SECURITY BRANCH.

IT'S MY JOB TO WATCH OUT FOR SPIES AMONG THE REGULAR BELIEVERS.

SISTER...

YEAH.
I BET
HIKAGE
KNOWS
WHAT IT'S
LIKE TO
FEEL
ALIVE.


GRRRMMM.

MM-

MMPH...

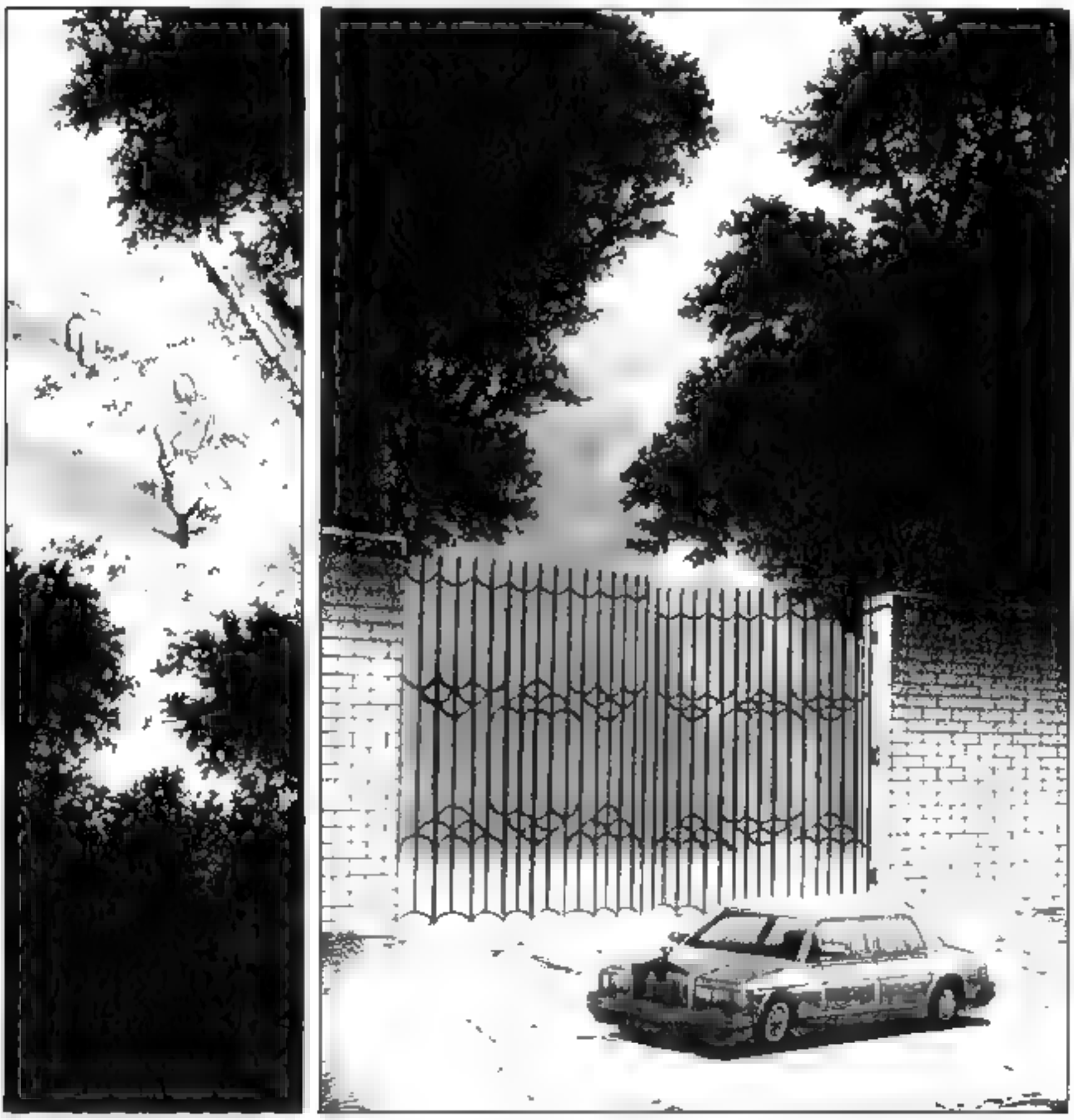
WAS I UNCONSCIOUS...? IT'S QUIET.

KAZUMA'S NOT HERE?

WHAT, ARE YOU STILL ALIVE? TALK ABOUT TOUGH.

DON'T GET ANY FUNNY IDEAS. JUST SIT BACK AND RELAX.

WHERE ARE WE?



KURAHA DOESN'T SEEM TO BE HERE...

.....

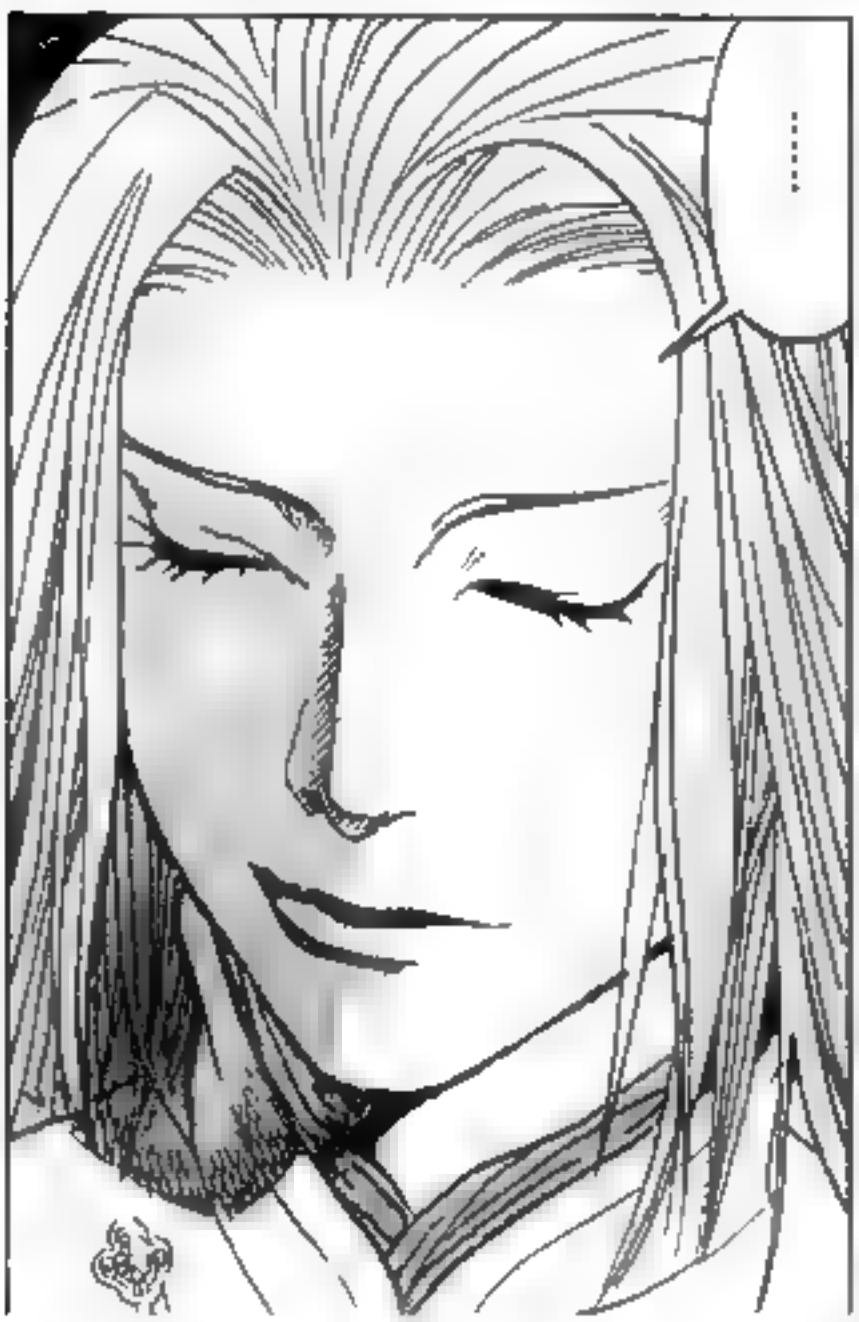
I SEE YOU ARE AS BARBAROUS AS EVER, KAZUMA.

CAN YOU NOT KEEP YOURSELF FROM SUCKING BLOOD?

.....

WE ARE THE TYPE WHOSE MINDS RULE OVER THE BODY.
LONGING FOR THE FLESH WE ONCE HELD WILL ONLY LEAD TO DESTRUCTION OF THE SELF
AND BLOOD IS NOTHING BUT A KEYWORD THAT SIGNIFIES FLESH.

HHH
THAT IS WHY I WAS AGAINST LETTING YOU JOIN US, WHEN KURAHA RECOMMENDED IT.
STOP WHAT YOU ARE DOING, IMMEDIATELY.
IF YOU DO NOT, I WILL TURN YOU INTO DUST.


.....

WHY NOT RIGHT NOW, HAZUKI?

HA HA HA. NEVERTHE LESS, I HAVE SOMETHING YOU MIGHT LIKE TO SEE.

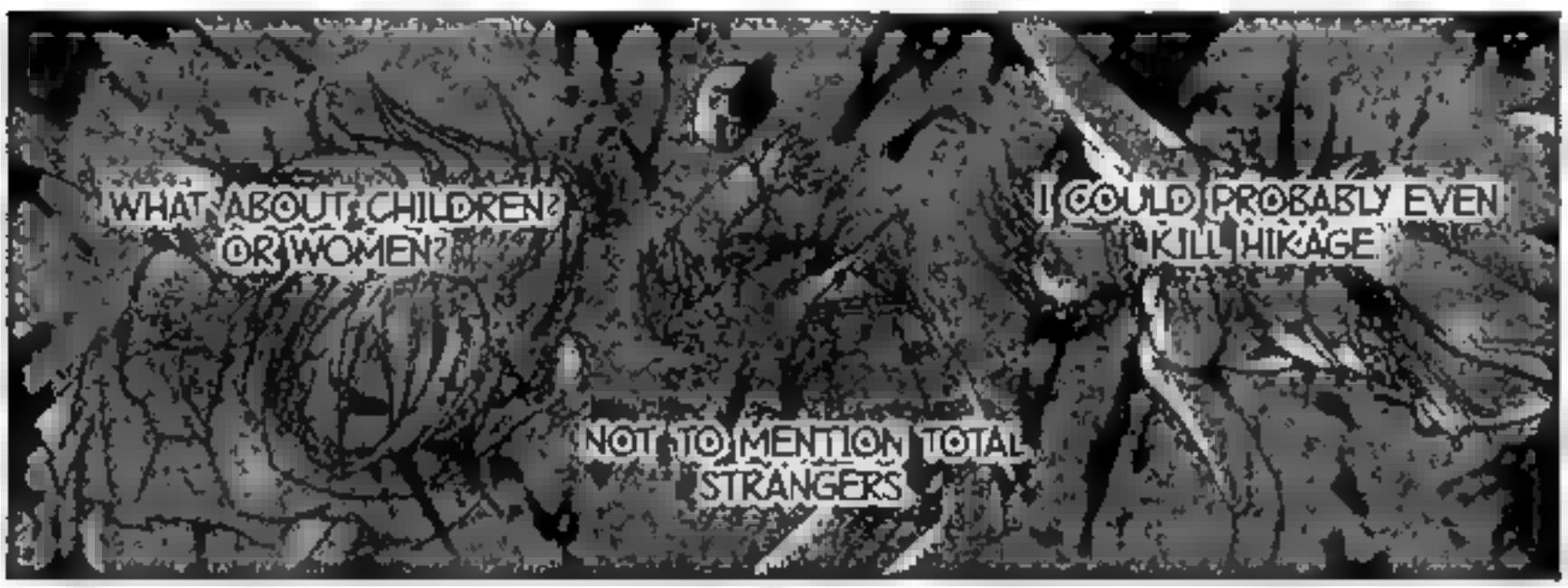
YOU WANT TO KNOW HOW TO INCREASE OUR NUMBERS, DON'T YOU?

IF KURAHA ISN'T HOME, I HAVE NO BUSINESS HERE.

ブオオオオオ

VRMMMMM

WHY DIDN'T THEY JUST USE US IN THE FIRST PLACE?!


WHAT ABOUT CHILDREN OR WOMEN?
I COULD PROBABLY EVEN KILL HIKAGE
NOT TO MENTION TOTAL STRANGERS

MAYBE I KILL, BECAUSE I DON'T FEEL ALIVE.
WITHOUT ANY LIVING RELATIVES BY BLOOD, THERE'S NO WAY FOR ME TO PROVE MY EXISTENCE IN THIS WORLD.

SISTER...

YEAH,
I BET
HIKAGE
KNOWS
WHAT IT'S
LIKE TO
FEEL
ALIVE.

GRRRMMM...

CLACK

CLACKS

CLACK
CLACK

CLACK

OOOOHHH

BEHOLD, KAZUMA, THE FATE OF THOSE HELD CAPTIVE BY LONGING FOR THE FLESH.
UNABLE TO SUCK BLOOD, THEIR OWN MINDS HAVE BROUGHT RUIN TO THEIR OWN BODIES.

IF WE NEED BLOOD, LET US HAVE IT.

WE HAVE OVERWHELMING STRENGTH.

HUMANS ARE NOTHING BUT OUR LIVESTOCK.

.....

WE LOST TO THEM A HUNDRED YEARS AGO, AND A THOUSAND YEARS AGO.

TO THEM... AND THE SERVANTS OF THE YATO NO KAMI.

AS OUR NUMBERS GROW, SO WILL THE AMOUNT OF WEAK SOULS WHO CANNOT OVERCOME THEIR OWN BODIES.

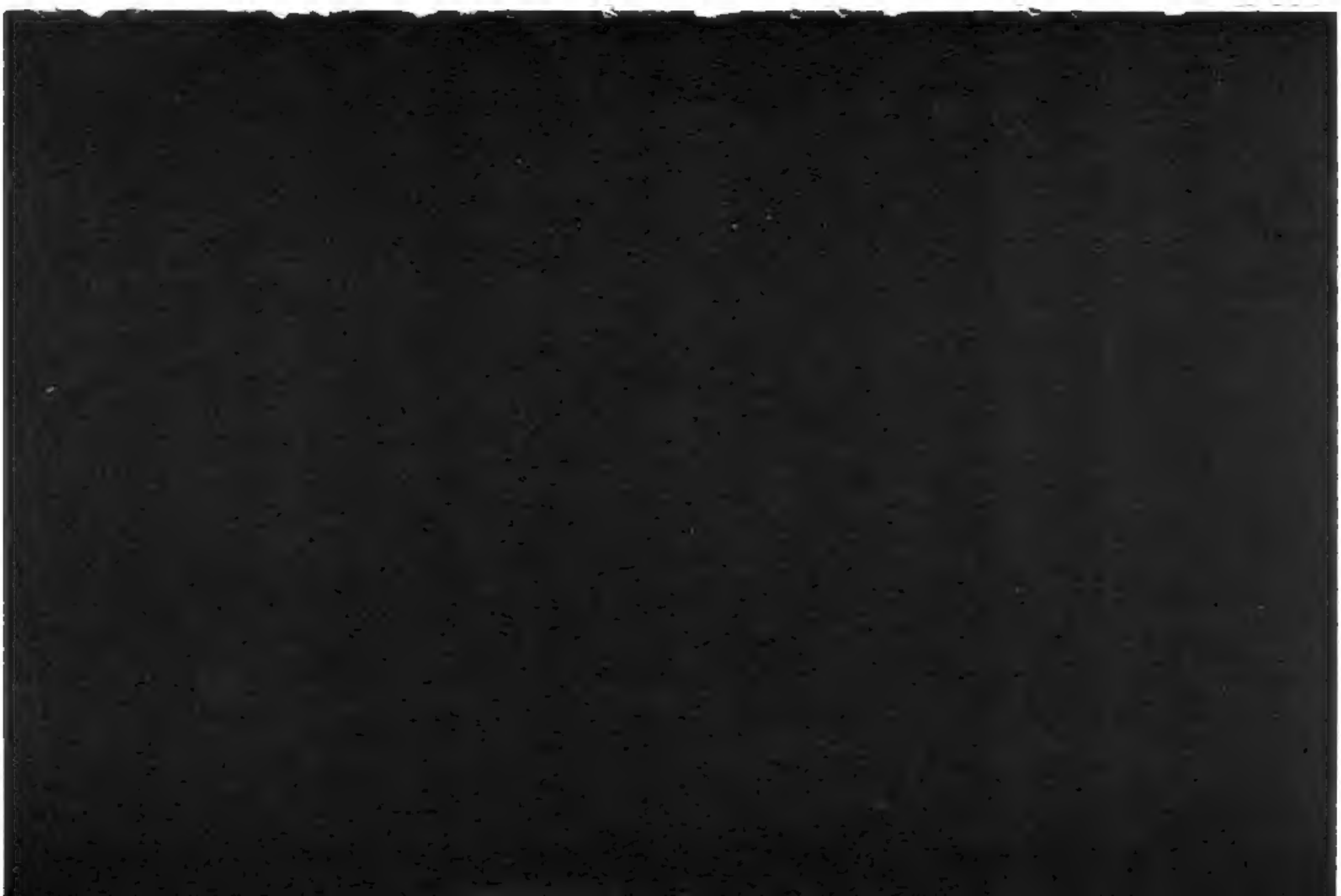
AND THE HUMANS WILL NOT SUFFER OUR PRESENCE ON THIS EARTH.

HAZUKI IS HELD JUST AS CAPTIVE BY WORDS AS THEY ARE.

AND THE SERVANTS OF THE YATO NO KAMI ARE NOTHING.

I WILL USE MY POWERS TO CHANGE THE WORLD AS I SEE FIT.

LEGEND OF ZIPANGU 2 - END



YUSUKE AND HIKAGE HEAD OUT TO FULFILL THEIR JOB... BUT ENTIRELY DIFFERENT FATES AWAIT EACH ONE!!

TO BE CONTINUED IN LEGEND OF ZIPANGU VOLUME 3...

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